

Kidnapping plot trial

Jury selection to begin for 4 accused in plot to kidnap Michigan governor. **NEWS, PAGE 5**

Cosby case

Supreme Court refuses to review Bill Cosby sexual assault case. **NEWS, PAGE 5**

Big East champions

UConn women defeat Villanova 70-40 to win Big East Tournament. **SPORTS, PAGE 1**

Sunny, cooler



Mostly sunny and breezy; high of 44. **SPORTS, PAGE 6**

Hartford Courant



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WAR IN UKRAINE



The Ukrainian flag flies at the Connecticut state Capitol. A resolution from Hartford City Council member John Gale would have the city join the state in divesting from Russian assets. **MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT**

Putin, Russians ramp up shelling

Civilians struggle as food, water dwindle in several regions

By Yuras Karmanau | Associated Press

LVIV, Ukraine — The humanitarian crisis in Ukraine deepened Monday as Russian forces intensified their shelling and food, water, heat and medicine grew increasingly scarce, in what the country condemned as a medieval-style siege by Moscow to batter it into submission.

A third round of talks between the two sides ended with a top Ukrainian official saying there had been minor, unspecified progress toward establishing safe corridors that would allow civilians to escape the fighting.

Russia's chief negotiator said he expects those corridors to start operating Tuesday.

But that remained to be seen, given the failure of previous attempts to lead civilians to safety amid the biggest ground war in Europe since World War II.

Well into the second week of the invasion, with Russian troops making significant advances in southern Ukraine but stalled in some other regions, a top U.S. official said multiple countries were discussing whether to provide the warplanes that Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has been pleading for.

Russian President Vladimir Putin's forces continued to pummel cities with rockets, and fierce fighting raged in places.

Turn to Ukraine, Page 3

Hartford treasurer reviews exposure to, divestment from Russian assets from pension fund

By Seamus McAvoy | Hartford Courant

The Hartford Treasurer's office is moving to divest the city's billion-dollar pension fund from Russian-owned assets, while the city council is set to consider a resolution supporting the measure and calling on Hartford to impose further sanctions.

The move comes as states, cities and businesses across the world take steps to squeeze Russia in response to the country's unprovoked invasion of Ukraine.

In addition to asking the city treasurer to investigate the extent of Russian assets in the city's pension fund, the resolution would formally condemn Russia for the attack and will ask the city to take "whatever actions it can to impose economic sanctions upon Russia."

"It's not a totally symbolic gesture, but it's filled with symbolism to show our solidarity and support for the sovereignty of this nation [Ukraine]," said John Gale, the Hartford city council member who wrote the resolution.

Adam M. Cloud, Hartford's city treasurer, said his office is already exploring "any and all exposures" to Russian assets through the city's investments. Cloud met with consultants last week and spoke to staff Monday morning about divestment, he said.

Turn to Divest, Page 3

SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION

Legislators call for oversight of program

Lawmakers want transparency of scandal-plagued procedures

By Christopher Keating
Hartford Courant

HARTFORD — As an FBI investigation and audits continue, state officials told legislators Monday that they are making wide-ranging improvements in the scandal-plagued school construction program that has been allocated more than \$1 billion since 2018.

Officials are hoping that an external auditor can complete an initial report in April so that the legislature could take action, if necessary, before the regular session ends May 4. The program's internal auditors were also moved to "an arms-length distance" from the school construction office and now have direct access to the commissioner. The first move was switching the program and its employees back to the nonpartisan Department of Administrative Services instead of the governor's budget office, which is seen as more partisan.

The changes have been made since Gov. Ned Lamont last year fired deputy budget director Kosta Diamantis, a former Democratic legislator who oversaw school construction, after questions were raised about how contracts were awarded for public school renovations and improvements. A red flag came when chief state's attorney Richard Colangelo hired the daughter of Diamantis for a state job paying \$99,000 per year as an executive assistant at the same time that Colangelo was seeking pay raises for fellow prosecutors and himself.

After a joint meeting of the finance and education committees Monday that lasted 2 ½ hours, Republicans said they remained sharply dissatisfied because there are still many unanswered questions. Democrats, however, said those questions would be answered in the coming months by the various ongoing audits and investigation.

Local officials around the state, including Tolland, Bristol, Groton, and New Britain, say they had been directed to hire certain contractors in recent years in order to speed their projects and receive state reimbursement of millions of dollars. The state has recently told local officials that they will not honor the higher reimbursement rates that had been promised by Diamantis for renovations in Stamford, as well as at Bulkeley High School in Hartford and Farmington High School. The difference that the communities would need to cover are \$16 million in Hartford and more than \$900,000 in Farmington.

Lawmakers are already considering writing special legislation to help those communities to receive additional reimbursements that they had been promised.

During Monday's informational forum, top officials said they have been working constantly over the past four months to reassure lawmakers and school boards that the program will be run strictly by the law. State employee Noel Petra, who serves as deputy commissioner overseeing the program, said employees have been working long hours to let local offi-

Turn to Oversight, Page 2

Rosenthal selling Max restaurants share to partners

After more than 3 decades, dining entrepreneur decides to retire

By Kenneth R. Gosselin
Hartford Courant

After a more than three-decade career at the forefront of Greater Hartford's dining out scene, Richard Rosenthal — the entrepreneurial force behind the Max restaurants — is retiring from the company he founded in 1986, selling his share to his partners.

Rosenthal's flagship

restaurant Max Downtown has been a Hartford landmark since the mid-1990s and the Max name also became well established in the surrounding suburbs — Avon, Glastonbury, West Hartford — and just over the state line in Massachusetts.

Rosenthal will remain as a consultant, most likely involved in menu development and scouting locations for new restaurants. Rosenthal said Monday the company's management structure in which restaurants are run by partners in the company will position the company well as he steps back from a day-to-day post.

"It made me feel this

restaurant group could go on very strongly without me, with my limited guidance as a consultant," Rosenthal said in a telephone interview from Florida.

The collection of 10 restaurants cannot be described as a chain because each brand is separate and distinct, ranging from the more upscale Max Downtown to Savoy Pizzeria in West Hartford and Max Burger, with two locations, in West Hartford and Longmeadow, Mass.

Rosenthal, who will turn 65 this month, said he also considered in making the decision both his age and the long, exhausting slog

through a pandemic that is now in its third year.

"The pandemic has been a punch in everyone's gut," Rosenthal said.

Rosenthal declined to comment on the amount for which he sold his share of the company.

"It's not a huge number," Rosenthal said. "I'm more excited about these guys progressing than me cashing out."

Scott Smith, who joined the company in the early 1990s and long has served as chief operating officer, will succeed Rosenthal as chief executive of a company that

Turn to Max, Page 3



Scott Smith, chief executive officer of Max Hospitality LLC, waves to diners at the bar at Max Downtown in Hartford. **MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT**

Glastonbury considers stationary license plate readers

Glastonbury residents get their chance Tuesday to speak for or against the police department's proposal to put automated license plate scanners around town. **Connecticut, Page 1**

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FROM PAGE ONE

GOP candidates seek Himes' seat

Former Darien first selectwoman, doctor seek Republican nod as US representative

By **Christine Dempsey**
Hartford Courant

A popular former first selectwoman and a doctor on Monday announced their intention to seek the Republican nomination to run for the 4th congressional seat held by U.S. Rep. Jim Himes.

"I am running for Congress to bring principled, bridge-building leadership to Washington and to inspire healthier discussions that garner better results for Connecticut," said Jayme Stevenson. "Elections are about embracing the status quo or using your voice to create positive change. I am ready to connect, communicate and find better solutions for southwestern Connecticut."

Stevenson said she has 12 years of public service under her belt — including a decade as Darien's top elected official. Himes, a Democrat, has held his seat since 2009.

Her announcement prompted another Republican to throw his hat in the ring. Dr. Michael T. Goldstein, a physician and former New York County Medical Society president, said that he, too, wants to challenge Himes.

"Competition is a part of the political process and gives our people the opportunity to make choices for their future," he said. "A successful candidate will need to appeal to independent voters and those Democrats who have been disenfranchised by their party on false promises, lack of school

choice, control of their health decisions, no support for their small businesses, no concrete solutions to curb inflation and soaring gas prices and accountability of their elected representatives." He also said it's time for Washington to have doctors to reform the healthcare system from the inside.

Stevenson indicated in her announcement that the war in Ukraine factored into her decision to run for national office.

"Global tensions exacerbate growing domestic crises making today's America unrecognizable to me. Skyrocketing food and gas prices, rising crime, mental health and education are all weighing on the hearts and minds of American families. Through all this, there is misplaced focus on extremism and clickbait headlines more than on coming



Goldstein



Stevenson

together to find solutions to the serious problems we face," Stevenson said.

"I know you share these same concerns. There is an alternative to the political insanity. I have managed to bring people together in Darien, throughout the region and across the state over my 12 years of public service and to successfully lead through a global pandemic," she said. "Managing a local government, I worked to keep residents safe and to ensure a sustainable cost of living through responsible budgeting. I'm running for Congress to bring that same success as your experienced, steady voice in Washington."

Christine Dempsey may be reached at cdempsey@courant.com.

Oversight

from Page 1

cials know they can have confidence in the program.

"We feel like we have made a big improvement in our policies and procedures," Petra told lawmakers. "We've had meetings with dozens of districts, dozens of legislators ... to clarify, to help. It's a critical part of what the state does. We're working all week long, including weekends, to help."

But Rep. Holly Cheeseman, the ranking House Republican member of the tax-writing finance committee, said that legislators must "talk about how this never happens again" and that taxpayers' money is "spent in an appropriate, above-board and transparent manner" in the future.

"Who is providing oversight?" Cheeseman asked. "It's obvious there are failings here."

During the hearing, she said she was frustrated that not enough information was being released.

"An audit of an audit is not filling me with a great deal of confidence," Cheeseman said.

She said she was concerned that the building trades had been concerned about the contracting issues last July, and some questions still have not been answered in March.

Rep. Bobby Sanchez, a New Britain Democrat who co-chairs the education committee, said he wanted to make it clear that he was opposed in 2019 when the school construction program was moved to the governor's budget office when Diamantis was appointed as deputy commissioner.

Republicans were concerned about



Former Democratic state legislator Kosta Diamantis was fired last year by Gov. Ned Lamont after questions were raised regarding the state's scandal-plagued school construction program, which the FBI and a federal grand jury are investigating. **COURANT FILE PHOTO**

Monday's hearing, noting that it was overseen by two Democratic-controlled committees. Instead, Republicans said that a special committee should have been established in the same way as those that investigated former Gov. John G. Rowland and former Senate Republican leader Lou DeLuca, who both resigned during the investigations.

Democrats, though, had already rejected that idea, saying that the existing committees have the proper jurisdiction over various aspects of school construction. Since

various audits are still ongoing, state Sen. John Fonfara of Hartford said that Monday's forum could be seen as "premature" with many questions still unanswered.

Rep. Sean Scanlon, a Guilford Democrat who co-chairs the finance committee with Fonfara, said that the officials have spent months working "to safeguard this program and preserve the integrity of it."

But Senate Republican leader Kevin Kelly of Stratford, who had pushed for a special committee with subpoena power, said the informational forum - where only two invited speakers could testify - was not enough.

"It's clear that no legislative investigation has begun," Kelly said. "This was not a hearing. This was not an investigation. This was not a thorough examination of all the stakeholders. Lawmakers were instructed to limit their questions in length and scope to exclude discussion of past actions of the executive branch. You can't have an informational forum if you don't want to find out the information."

House Republican leader Vincent Candelora of North Branford agreed, saying, "There's no reason we can't hold an official legislative investigation into how we've arrived at this point. Given what citizens witnessed today, it's more apparent than ever that this type of inquiry is needed."

Rep. Tammy Nuccio, a Tolland Republican, asked if there were "any red flags raised by the department" when the school construction office was moved in 2019 to the governor's budget office.

"At this point, I have absolutely zero confidence that the state is auditing itself," Nuccio said. "We need an outside, indepen-

dent auditor. I'm not comfortable with what the state is saying that this will not happen again."

Michelle Gilman, commissioner-designate of the Department of Administrative Services, said, "The last few months have been very challenging for our staff, but we are up to that challenge."

"The governor takes very seriously these allegations," Gilman told lawmakers. "It's unacceptable, and he does not tolerate that. ... We have taken multiple steps. ... We have great respect and great trust for our state employees, and it's our obligation as leadership to support them."

When Republican Sen. Henri Martin of Bristol asked what went wrong, Gilman paused for six seconds and asked him to elaborate.

"Without Monday-morning quarterbacking ... my concern is moving forward how this program is conducted and how we operate," Gilman responded. "Additional safeguards to ensure that there is full transparency around this program. ... Additional audits. Additional external and independent authorities reviewing the procedures that not only took place in the past. ... Again, I can't speak to any of the allegations that have come before in the press or in the investigation."

Martin responded, "OK. I don't know if I heard what I was hoping to hear. ... The ball probably was dropped in multiple ways. ... I hope that we learn through various investigations how the ball was dropped, and we'll be able to fix those."

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BREAKING NEWS

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LOTTERY

Monday, March 7

PLAY3 DAY

8 6 2 WB: 2

PLAY4 DAY

2 4 8 3 WB: 2

The late lotto numbers were not drawn in time for this edition. For results, please visit courant.com/lottery.

SUNDAY'S LATE NUMBERS

PLAY3 NIGHT

5 5 2 WB: 8

PLAY4 NIGHT

4 9 0 6 WB: 7

CASH 5

4 5 8 24 27

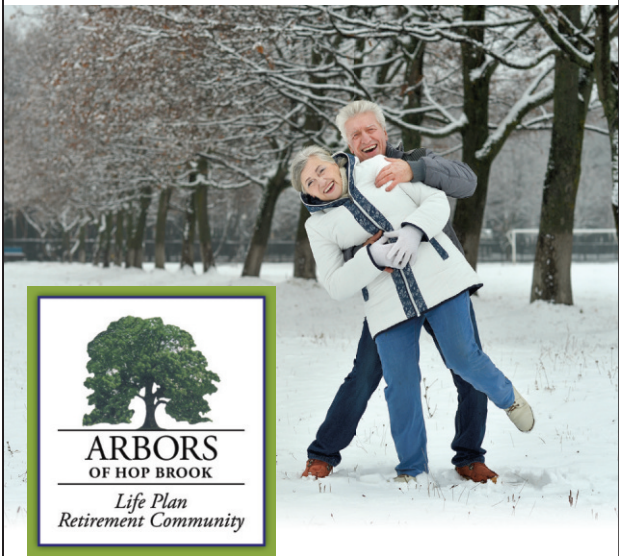
LUCKY FOR LIFE

15 29 34 44 46 LB: 8

Tonight's est. Lotto jackpot: \$1.3 million
Tonight's est. Mega Millions jackpot: \$126 million
Wednesday's est. Powerball jackpot: \$90 million

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FROM PAGE ONE



Ukrainians fleeing fighting make their way from Irpin across an improvised bridge Monday to reach Kyiv. EFREM LUKATSKY/AP

Ukraine

from Page 1

In one of the most desperate cities, the encircled southern port of Mariupol, an estimated 200,000 people — nearly half the population of 430,000 — were hoping to flee, and Red Cross officials waited to hear when a corridor would be established.

The city is short on water, food and power, and cellphone networks are down. Stores have been looted as residents search for essential goods.

Police moved through the city, advising people to remain in shelters until they heard official messages broadcast over loudspeakers to evacuate.

Hospitals in Mariupol are facing severe shortages of antibiotics and painkillers, and doctors performed some emergency procedures without them.

The lack of phone service left anxious citizens approaching strangers to ask if they knew relatives living in other parts of the city and whether they were safe.

The battle for Mariupol is crucial because its capture could allow Moscow to establish a land corridor to the Crimea Peninsula, which Russia seized from Ukraine in 2014.

In the capital, Kyiv, soldiers and volunteers have built hundreds of checkpoints to protect the city of nearly 4 million, often using sandbags, stacked tires and spiked cables.

Some barricades looked significant, with heavy concrete slabs and sandbags piled more than two stories high, while others appeared more haphazard, with hundreds of books used to weigh down stacks of tires.

“Every house, every street, every checkpoint, we will fight to the death if necessary,” said Mayor Vitali Klitschko.

In Kharkiv, Ukraine’s second-largest city, with 1.4 million people, heavy shelling slammed into apartment buildings.

“I think it struck the fourth floor under us,” Dmitry Sedorenko said from his Kharkiv hospital bed. “Immediately, everything started burning and falling apart.” When the floor collapsed beneath him, he crawled out through the third



A Ukrainian police officer runs while holding a child as the artillery echoes nearby, while fleeing Irpin on the outskirts of Kyiv, Ukraine, on Monday. EMILIO MORENATTI/AP

story, past the bodies of some of his neighbors.

Klitschko reported that fierce battles continued in the Kyiv region, notably around Bucha, Hostomel, Vorzel and Irpin.

In the Irpin area, which has been cut off from electricity, water and heat for three days, witnesses saw at least three tanks and said Russian soldiers were seizing houses and cars.

In the south, Russian forces also continued their offensive in Mykolaiv, opening fire on the Black Sea shipbuilding center of a half-million people, according to Ukraine’s military. Rescuers said they were putting out fires caused by rocket attacks in residential areas.

At The Hague, Netherlands, Ukraine pleaded with the International Court of Justice to order a halt to Russia’s invasion, saying Moscow is committing widespread war crimes.

Russia “is resorting to tactics reminiscent of medieval siege warfare, encircling cities, cutting off escape routes and pounding the civilian population with heavy ordnance,” said Jonathan Gimblett, a member of Ukraine’s legal team.

Russia snubbed the court proceedings, leaving its seats in the Great Hall of Justice empty.

Efforts to set up safe passage for civilians over the weekend fell apart amid continued Russian shelling.

Before Monday’s talks began, Russia announced a new plan, saying civilians would be allowed to leave Kyiv, Mariupol, Kharkiv and Sumy.

Later, Russia’s U.N. Ambassador, Vassily Nebenzia, told the U.N. Security Council that Russia would carry out a cease-fire Tuesday morning and open humanitarian corridors leading away from Kyiv, Mariupol, Sumy and Chernigov.

Zelenskyy expressed skepticism about the sincerity of the gestures, asserting in his daily video address that instead of an agreement on humanitarian corridors, what Ukraine got Monday was “Russian tanks, Russian Grad rockets, Russian mines.”

Divest

from Page 1

“Number one, the city of Hartford treasurer’s office and the pension fund stand behind the Ukrainian people and denounce the horrific actions of the Russian government with regards to Ukraine,” Cloud said.

Cloud said he does not believe the city has “any significant exposure” to Russian assets, and his office is working to ensure that is the case.

“And if we do [have exposure], we will be moving precipitously toward a full disengagement with any Russian investments,” Cloud said.

The city of Hartford’s pension fund is worth about \$1.13 billion, and contributes about \$55 million to the \$120 million total the city makes in benefit payments each year.

If the pension fund is found to be invested in Russian assets, divestment could be complicated. The Russian stock market has been frozen since the invasion began, making it impossible for investors to sell their holdings.

The MSCI Emerging Markets Index, which lists emerging markets like Russia, Brazil, China and India, cut out Russian equities last week. Meanwhile, the London Stock Exchange has suspended trading in some Russian firms.

It isn’t clear when the Russian stock market will reopen, or how significant losses could be when it does.

Gale said he will file the resolution with the city clerk’s office Tuesday morning. It will then be added to the agenda for the council’s next meeting on Monday, March 14.

In addition to Gale, of the Hartford Party, the resolution will be introduced by Council President Maly D. Rosado and council members Tiana Hercules, Nick Lebron, Marilyn Rossetti and James Sanchez.

“The world is watching, as to what’s going on in Ukraine,” said Lebron, a Democrat. “Obviously, our funding may not have investments on a global scale, but whatever it is, it shows a form of solidarity. Not only as a country, but as a community.”

“Hartford is a community full of immigrants, and we do have Ukrainian residents and people who have immigrated from there to here,” said Hercules, of the Working Families Party. “It does show them that we’re supporting them and their families who aren’t here, who are still [in Ukraine] and dealing with the things that are going on on the ground.”

“I think if more communities stand up and do the same, I think that sets a loud and clear message that we don’t stand for this in 2022,” Hercules said.

Last week, state Treasurer Shawn T. Wooden announced Connecticut will join with California, Georgia, Oregon, Pennsylvania and other states in a move to divest state assets from Russia.

“Eliminating our holdings of Russian assets is not only a moral imperative but the current crisis also constitutes a substantial risk for Connecticut’s investments, our national policy and economic security,” Wooden said at the time.

In New York City, trustees of the city’s employee retirement system voted last week to approve divestment from Russian companies.

The City of Hartford Pension Commission next meets on March 25.

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Max

from Page 1

now employs 900.

Smith will share top managing with Steven Abrams, Rosenthal’s college roommate who also has been with the Max restaurants since the early days. Abrams is a partner in Max Downtown, Max’s Oyster Bar and Trumbull Kitchen.

“Everyone can have the confidence that we are going to continue on and run the type of company that everyone has been accustomed to,” Smith said Monday. “People shouldn’t expect a huge change.”

Rosenthal said he started seriously thinking about stepping away from day-to-day responsibilities about a year ago when there was an offer to buy the restaurant company.

“It was a strategy to take Max’s and turn it into a bigger number, Rosenthal said. “We never ran this business as a business to sell. We opened a restaurant and our goal was to be great, not what our next deal was.”

“And this guy was going to be about the next deal, the next phase, which private equity company was going to buy us, that kind of thing,” Rosenthal said. “It was going to change the culture drastically.”

Rosenthal declined to name the buyer.

Smith credited Rosenthal with the patience to wait for the right time and opportunity to open a new restaurant, in one instance waiting five years between openings.

Deep roots in Hartford dining

Rosenthal — long interested in the restaurant business back to his days busing and waiting tables in high school — first staked out turf in Hartford in 1986, opening Max-on-Main with his wife, Vicki. The restaurant was quickly a hit with reservations booked for weeks.

As an entrepreneur, Rosenthal also saw opportunities in the suburbs, first opening up Max A Mia Ristorante in Avon and Max Amore in Glastonbury.



Richard Rosenthal, founder and chief executive of the Max Restaurant Group, is retiring from the company he founded in 1986. COURANT FILE PHOTO

Rosenthal rode the heady wave of the go-go 1980s, but he also saw the lows of a devastating recession that hit Hartford hard in the early 1990s and then again in 2008.

“The pandemic has definitely been the biggest challenge,” Rosenthal said.

A decade after opening Max-on-Main, Rosenthal doubled the size of his downtown space, closing Max-on-Main and launching Max Downtown on the ground floor of CityPlace,

where it operates today.

Rosenthal has closed just one other restaurant, Max Amore, in Glastonbury. He said the restaurant did not go out of business, but, after 25 years, Max Amore had run its course, as sales slipped.

“We felt we could do a refresh, but it wouldn’t be fresh,” Rosenthal said. “It was a little tired there, and we didn’t want to re-invent it, and the rent was very high.”

Rosenthal’s success came

with his keen eye for changing tastes in menus and experience. In 2019, a \$1.6 million renovation of Max Downtown was aimed also at attracting a hip, younger crowd and getting away from the image of the restaurant being “your father’s place.”

Demanding excellence, Rosenthal acknowledged Monday that he could be tough on employees, more so in the early days of the company.

With Rosenthal’s departure the name of the company will change from Max Restaurant Group to Max Hospitality, recognizing that that “great food and service” are part of a larger experience of hospitality, Smith said.

The fall-out from the pandemic still lingers, Smith said.

“We’re still picking up the pieces from Covid,” Smith said. “We’ve always had low turnover and so, even though we still have a lot of veterans working for us, we probably have 10-15 people in each restaurant that are relatively new and

getting them established and getting them to understand our standards — our ‘Never Say No’ attitude — is a trick.”

Scott Dolch, president and chief executive of the Connecticut Restaurant Association, praised Rosenthal’s contributions both in dining and in the community.

“In addition to employing hundreds and hundreds of people, Rich and his partners have been leaders in their communities, supporting important causes throughout the greater Hartford region,” Dolch said.

During the pandemic, the Max Cares Foundation provided aid to displaced restaurant workers and their families, even beyond the Max workforce.

Though Rosenthal is now stepping away, he said he is protective of the legacy of the restaurant group.

“Max was named after the my grandfather, so I have a family responsibility there,” Rosenthal said.

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WAR IN UKRAINE

Allies accelerate weapons pipeline

Already a huge lift, arming Ukraine also faces time crunch

By David E. Sanger, Eric Schmitt and Helene Cooper
The New York Times

On a snowy tarmac at Amari Air Base in northern Estonia on Sunday morning, pallets of rifles, ammunition and other weapons were being loaded onto one of the largest cargo planes in the world, an Antonov AN-124, belonging to the Ukrainian air force. It is an artifact of the Cold War, built and purchased when Ukraine was still part of the Soviet Union.

Now it is being turned back against the Russian invasion of Ukraine, part of a vast airlift that American and European officials describe as a desperate race against time, to get tons of arms into the hands of Ukrainian forces while their supply routes are still open. Scenes such as this — reminiscent of the Berlin airlift, the famed race by the Western allies to keep West Berlin supplied with essentials in 1948 and 1949 as the Soviet Union sought to choke it off — are playing out across Europe.

In less than a week, the United States and NATO have pushed more than 17,000 antitank weapons, including Javelin missiles, over the borders of Poland and Romania, unloading them from giant military cargo planes so they can make the trip by land to Kyiv, the Ukrainian capital, and other major cities. So far, Russian forces have been so



Ukrainian soldiers prepare a Swedish-British anti-tank weapon last month in the Lugansk area. ANATOLII STEPANOV/GETTY-AFP

preoccupied in other parts of the country that they have not targeted the supply lines, but few think that can last.

But those are only the most visible contributions. Hidden away on bases around Eastern Europe, forces from United States Cyber Command known as “cybermission teams” are in place to interfere with Russia’s digital attacks and communications — but measuring their success rate is difficult, officials say.

In Washington and Germany, intelligence officials race to merge satellite photographs with electronic intercepts of Russian military units, strip them of hints of how they were gathered,

and beam them to Ukrainian military units within an hour or two.

As he tries to stay out of the hands of Russian forces in Kyiv, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy travels with encrypted communications equipment, provided by the Americans, that can put him into a secure call with President Joe Biden.

Zelenskyy used it Saturday night for a 35-minute call with Biden on what more the U.S. can do in its effort to keep Ukraine alive without entering into direct combat on the ground, in the air or in cyberspace with Russian forces.

Zelenskyy welcomed the

help so far, but also repeated the criticism that he has made in public — that the aid was wildly insufficient to the task ahead. He has asked for a no-fly zone over Ukraine, a shutdown of all Russian energy exports and a fresh supply of fighter jets.

The effort to equip Ukraine is, in many ways, a more complex effort than the Berlin airlift three-quarters of a century ago. West Berlin was a small territory with direct air access. Ukraine is a sprawling country of 44 million from which Biden has pulled all American forces in an effort to avoid becoming a “co-combatant” in the war, a legal term that governs how far

the United States can go in helping Ukraine without being considered in direct conflict with a nuclear-armed Russia.

To understand the warp-speed nature of the arms transfers underway now, consider this: A \$60 million arms package to Ukraine that the U.S. announced in August was not completed until November, the Pentagon said.

But when Biden approved \$350 million in military aid Feb. 26 — nearly six times larger — 70% of it was delivered in five days. The speed was considered essential, officials said, because the equipment — including anti-tank weapons — had

to make it through western Ukraine before Russian air and ground forces started attacking the shipments. As Russia takes more territory inside the country, it is expected to become more and more difficult to distribute weapons to Ukrainian troops.

Within 48 hours of Biden’s approving the transfer of weapons from pre-positioned U.S. military stockpiles Feb. 26, the first shipments, largely from Germany, were ready to roll onto Air Force C-17 transport planes and other cargo aircraft and flown to about half a dozen airfields near Ukraine’s border, chiefly in Poland and Romania, officials said.

Still, the resupply effort faces stiff logistical and operational challenges.

“The window for doing easy stuff to help the Ukrainians has closed,” said Maj. Gen. Michael Repass, a former commander of U.S. Special Operations forces in Europe.

U.S. officials say Ukrainian leaders have told them that American and other allied weaponry is making a difference on the battlefield.

Ukrainian soldiers armed with shoulder-fired Javelin anti-tank missiles have several times in the past week attacked a milelong convoy of Russian armor and supply trucks, helping stall the Russian ground advance as it bears down on Kyiv, Pentagon officials said.

Some of the vehicles are being abandoned, officials said, because Russian troops fear sitting in the convoy when fuel-supply tanks are being targeted by the Ukrainians, setting off firebombs.

At 75, disabled US citizen stuck with family in war

It’s unknown how many Americans are trapped in Ukraine

By Amy Taxin and Nomaan Merchant
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — When her daughter was diagnosed with cancer, Tetiana Shatokhina didn’t hesitate to make the trip back to Ukraine to help her recover from surgery and care for her 14-year-old grandson.

But the 75-year-old disabled American citizen found herself trapped alongside her family in Kharkiv, Ukraine’s second-largest city, targeted by nightly shelling and bombs after Russia invaded Feb. 24.

Their underground shelter wasn’t big enough for all three of them, so Shatokhina, her daughter, Olena Iarova, and Iarova’s son stayed above ground despite the risk. Two lay beneath a table; Shatokhina, nearby, on the floor. They took turns sleeping and keep the lights off, and voices low, in the hopes the Russian military would think the home was abandoned and pass them by.

“Every time we go to bed, we don’t even sleep,” Iarova said in whispers in Russian

over the phone before the family left the city and headed West toward Poland, hoping to make it across the border.

The family is one of many stranded in Ukraine since the Russian invasion, including American citizens caring for family members who are Ukrainian citizens. The closing of the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv postponed many visa interviews and limited the services the country can provide to people seeking to leave Ukraine. Families have been contacting Congress and immigration lawyers in the U.S. pleading for help.

There’s no known estimate of how many Americans remain in Ukraine after weeks of warnings urging them to leave before the invasion.

The State Department has been “just completely unhelpful,” said Rep. Nicole Malliotakis, R-N.Y., whose office worked for days to push forward the visa application of a Ukrainian woman whose husband lives in Malliotakis’ district. “I know some of my colleagues are facing that same experience, and it’s just really reminiscent of what occurred in Afghanistan when we were trying to evacuate families and help people get out of Afghanistan.”

The department has support teams near the Ukrainian border in four neighboring countries to assist U.S. citizens and opened a “welcome center” in Poland. But people seeking immigrant visas who are trying to transfer their case to another U.S. embassy have to contact that specific embassy for a list of requirements, the department said this week.

After several emails sent by Malliotakis’ office, the State Department agreed to transfer the woman’s case to Moldova and the couple has now reached that country.

Thousands of miles away, in a hilltop home in Los Angeles, Shatokhina’s son and daughter-in-law have been sleepless as well. They’ve called their congressional representative and the State Department, desperate to get the family out.

They want to get them to the border with Poland — a stretch for Shatokhina, who recently underwent surgery herself and needs walking assistance — and then to a U.S. consulate for a long-awaited interview for a green card for Iarova, for which she was sponsored years ago.

“I actually called the State Department and I was told



Galina Blank, left, and her husband, Edward Chatokhin, of California, are desperate to get his mother, sister and nephew out of Ukraine. His mother is a U.S. citizen. EUGENE GARCIA/AP

that there’s nothing they can do until she’s in a EU country or any country outside of Ukraine,” said Galina Blank, Shatokhina’s daughter-in-law.

“She’s old. She’s sick. She’s a citizen,” she said.

In 1990, then-21-year-old Edward Chatokhin left his hometown of Kharkiv in what was the Soviet Union to try to make a life in the United States. Years later, he married Blank, who had moved to Los Angeles as a Soviet refugee when she was a child.

After Chatokhin became

a U.S. citizen, he sponsored his mother, Shatokhina, for a green card and she went to live with them in California. Once she, too, became a U.S. citizen, she applied for Iarova to join them.

Although U.S. authorities have approved her application, Iarova needs a consular interview to get a green card. Since the coronavirus pandemic, many of these interviews have been delayed, and Blank said she’s unsure how long it would have taken before the invasion. She said the State Department told her that

if Iarova can get to another country they would expedite her interview.

The situation in Kharkiv is dire, the family said. They were running out of food. Their water was cut off. The weather is cold.

When the invasion began, they thought the Russians were trying to scare them. But it only got worse, Iarova said.

“There is no mercy, not to anyone at all. We could imagine anything, but not that they would drop bombs on us,” she said. “I just want to save my child.”

Lawmakers push to cut Russian oil imports, favored trading relations

By Ana Swanson
The New York Times

A bipartisan group of U.S. lawmakers said Monday that it would move forward with legislation that would ban imports of Russian energy into the United States and suspend normal trade relations with Russia and Belarus in response to the invasion of Ukraine.

The legislation is aimed at inflicting further financial pain on Russia and Belarus, which has been aiding

the conflict, by cutting off Russia’s oil exports into the United States and giving President Joe Biden the ability to increase tariffs on products from both countries.

The bipartisan agreement to cut off oil imports adds to growing pressure on Biden to shut the spigot.

Although the U.S. imports just 7% of its oil from Russia, the administration has avoided banning imports, in part because of worries that it would further accelerate

already-high gas prices. The national average for a gallon of gas topped \$4.06 Monday.

Russia and Belarus are minor trading partners of the United States, although they supply some materials that are crucial for certain industries, including platinum, iron and fertilizer.

The legislation would also require the Office of the United States Trade Representative to seek Russia’s suspension from the World Trade Organization and try to halt Belarus’ attempt to

join the global trade body.

Biden would be given the authority to restore normal trade relations with Russia and Belarus subject to certain conditions, the lawmakers said.

Whether the legislation can pass Congress and make it to Biden’s desk remains to be seen, but it has support from House and Senate lawmakers, including several powerful committee chairs.

Those supporting the bill include Rep. Kevin Brady,

R-Texas; Rep. Richard Neal, D-Mass.; Sen. Mike Crapo, R-Idaho; and Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Ore.

House Democrats on Feb. 25 said they were introducing a bill to revoke permanent normal trading relations with Russia, a move that would cause the average tariff the United States applies to Russian goods to rise to about 33% from 3%.

Several other lawmakers have introduced legislation to remove trade preferences

for Russia or Belarus or bar the importation of Russian petroleum.

U.S. trade with Russia is limited: Russia ranked 20th in terms of global suppliers of goods to the United States in 2019, sending mainly fuels, platinum and other metals, iron, fertilizer and chemicals.

Russia was the United States’ 40th-largest export market that year, buying mainly machinery, aircraft, cars and medical instruments.

WORLD & NATION



Jury selection begins Tuesday in the trial of four men accused of conspiring to abduct Gov. Gretchen Whitmer. The plot unraveled in October 2020. **MICHIGAN OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

Trial to begin for 4 accused of Whitmer kidnapping plot

By Michael Tarm and Ed White
Associated Press

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Were they gullible foul-mouthed men under the spell of undercover agents? Or a rogue cast seething with enough anger to actually want to kidnap Michigan’s governor?

Jury selection begins Tuesday in the trial of four men who are accused of conspiring to snatch Gov. Gretchen Whitmer in a stunning scheme to retaliate against her stay-home policies and other COVID-19 restrictions during the early months of the pandemic.

In 2020, Whitmer, a Democrat, was trading taunts with then-President Donald Trump over his administration’s response to COVID-19. Her critics, meanwhile, were regularly protesting at the Michigan Capitol, clogging streets around the statehouse and legally carrying semi-automatic rifles into the building.

During that turbulent time, Brandon Caserta, Barry Croft Jr., Adam Fox and Daniel Harris were plotting to snatch Whitmer,

prosecutors say. They’re accused of taking critical steps over several months, including secret messaging, gun drills in the woods and a night drive to northern Michigan to scout her second home and figure out how to blow up a bridge.

The FBI, which had infiltrated the group, said it thwarted the plan with the arrests of six men in October 2020. Two of them, Kaleb Franks and Ty Garbin, have pleaded guilty and will appear as witnesses for the government, giving jurors an inside view of what was planned.

Garbin, for example, said Fox, the alleged ringleader, wanted the men to chip in for a \$4,000 explosive large enough to destroy a bridge near Whitmer’s home and distract police during a kidnapping.

“The blood of tyrants needs to be shed,” Garbin quoted Caserta as saying.

Garbin and Franks insist no one in the group acted because of excessive influence by agents or undercover informants.

“It is not the end of the case for the defense, but it’s a big obstacle to overcome,” John Smietanka, a former

federal prosecutor, said of the pair’s cooperation. “It’s going to come down to the credibility of witnesses plus the effect of any extrinsic evidence, like tapes.”

Prosecutors said much of the evidence will be the defendants’ own words gathered during secret recordings.

Ahead of the trial, defense lawyers panned the case, especially the “staggering use” of informants. They deny any conspiracy to kidnap Whitmer and have signaled an entrapment defense.

“The agents and snitches recruited the defendants, arranged meetings, paid for travel, paid for hotels, rented cars, produced promotional videos demonstrating explosives, purchased equipment, vetted new members, hatched the ideas and directed the operations,” said Joshua Blanchard, who is Croft’s attorney.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Nils Kessler said informants were paid to collect information, not to induce crimes. “The things they recorded were the defendants’ own words,” Kessler told a judge Friday.

High court refuses to review Pa. decision to release Cosby

By Maryclaire Dale
Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — The U.S. Supreme Court announced Monday that it would not review Bill Cosby’s sexual assault case, leaving him a free man and ending a two-decade legal drama that shifted the cultural landscape, destroyed the groundbreaking Black actor’s reputation and sent him to prison for several years late in life.

The high court, without comment, declined to review a decision out of Pennsylvania that released Cosby from prison in June over the word of a former prosecutor who said he had made a secret promise to Cosby’s lawyers that he would never be charged.

A Cosby spokesperson expressed “sincere gratitude to the justices” on behalf of Cosby and his family for the announcement and said he was the victim of “a reprehensible bait and switch” by the district attorney and judge in the case.

“This is truly a victory for Mr. Cosby, but it shows that cheating will never get you far in life,” spokesperson Andrew Wyatt said in a statement, once again taking aim at the court officials in suburban Philadelphia, as he had throughout both criminal trials.

Cosby, 84, remains in good health despite being legally blind, Wyatt said.

“Many people are calling for projects for him,” and he is considering a final stand-up tour, Wyatt said.

District Attorney Kevin Steele in Pennsylvania’s Montgomery County said that asking the high court to revive the case “was the right thing to do,” even if it was a long shot. He thanked accuser Andrea Constand for her courage and wished her well.

Constand and her lawyers, in a statement, noted that the existence of



Bill Cosby gestures outside his home in Elkins Park after being released from prison in 2021. A spokesman said Cosby is considering a final stand-up tour. **MATT ROURKE/AP**

the agreement or promise was “vigorously disputed in the (court) habeas proceedings, and determined by the trial judge not to exist.”

Cosby never signed an immunity agreement in the case. And Steele’s predecessor, Bruce Castor Jr., never put anything in writing or told anyone in his office about it. He never mentioned it in public until new evidence emerged and the case was reopened a decade later.

He said he had made the deal with a Cosby lawyer who was by then deceased.

“A secret agreement that permits a wealthy defendant to buy his way out of a criminal case isn’t right,” Steele argued in court in 2016 as he pressed to send the case to trial.

Montgomery County Judge Steven O’Neill found Castor’s testimony on the point not credible and sent the case to trial. However, the state Supreme Court later ruled that whether or not the supposed deal was ironclad, Cosby thought it was when he gave potentially incriminating testimony in a lawsuit later filed by Constand.

“The principle of funda-

mental fairness that undergirds due process of law in our criminal justice system demands that the promise be enforced,” Justice David Wecht wrote last year, ordering Cosby’s immediate release after nearly three years in prison.

During the 2006 deposition, Cosby detailed his sexual involvement with a string of young women, a few still in their teens, over the years. And he recalled giving several of them, including Constand, alcohol or pills while he remained sober.

He was arrested in the Constand case Dec. 30, 2015, just days before the 12-year statute of limitations expired.

Cosby, after giving four days of testimony, had paid her \$3.4 million to settle the case.

He went on trial in the criminal case in June 2017. The jury could not reach a verdict. Less than a year later, a second jury convicted Cosby of drugging and molesting Constand.

Scores of women have come forward to say Cosby also sexually assaulted them, but Constand’s is the only one that led to an arrest.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Fish Oil Failure Shines a Grim Light on America’s Memory Crisis

America’s top memory M.D. reveals the startling reason why “senior moments” may be caused by fish oil — and the #1 way to fix it fast

More than 16 million Americans suffer age-associated cognitive impairment. And according to nationwide research, these numbers are only rising.

Thankfully, anti-aging specialist and bestselling author, Dr. Al Sears, says there’s an easy way to banish senior moments for good. It’s a safe, natural compound that can grow the brain significantly bigger.

And unlike failed solutions that promise what they can’t deliver, this one actually works — at least, according to studies from Framingham, and other reputable universities.

But in order for it to work, you must avoid using run-of-the-mill fish oil supplements. “The worst thing you can do for your memory,” explains Dr. Sears, “is to supplement with fish oil.”

Dr. Al Sears, a highly-acclaimed MD — who has published more than 500 studies — says today’s low-grade supermarket fish oil is causing the surge in America’s memory crisis. “These cheap oils are no longer as nutrient-dense as they once were,” he explains.

If you want to get rid of embarrassing senior moments Dr. Sears recommends a different approach.

THE SECRET TO A LASTING MEMORY

Research has shown our paleo ancestors were able to grow bigger and smarter brains by eating foods rich in one ingredient — DHA. “Our hippocampus thrives off DHA, and grows because of it,” explains Dr. Sears. “Without DHA, our brains would shrink, and our memories would quickly fade.”

A groundbreaking study from the University of Alberta confirmed this. Animals given a diet rich in DHA saw a 29% boost in their hippocampus — the part of the brain responsible for learning and memory. As a result, these animals became smarter.

The same was found in human studies, too. After analyzing more than 1,500 seniors, the Framingham study found that those whose brains were deficient in DHA, had significantly smaller brains — a characteristic of accelerated aging and a weakened memory.

“Unfortunately, it’s almost impossible to boost levels of DHA simply by eating more fish or fish oil,” explains Dr. Sears. “DHA in fish oil has plummeted over the years. And it’s being replaced by another compound. One that can cause memory failure and brain fog.”

The ingredient Dr. Sears is referring to is called ALA — a compound found in cheap, grocery store fish oil.

PEOPLE’S BRAINS ARE SHRINKING AND THEY DON’T EVEN KNOW IT

Fish farming has caused DHA levels to plummet and ALA levels to rise, according to Dr. Sears.

“In order to produce DHA,” he explains, “fish need to eat a natural, marine diet, like the one they’d eat in the wild.” Without a marine-rich diet, most fish won’t produce DHA.

Dr. Sears uncovered that sometime during the 1990s, fish farmers stopped giving their animals a natural, DHA-rich diet and began feeding them a diet that was 70% vegetarian.

“It became too expensive for farmers to feed fish what they’d eat in the wild,” explains Dr. Sears. “And since more than 80% of fish oil comes from farms, it’s no wonder the country is experiencing a memory crisis. Most people’s brains are shrinking and they don’t even know it.”

“Since fish farmers are depriving these



Why the ‘brain fuel’ ingredient in fish oil is slowly drying up.

animals of their natural diet, ALA levels in fish oil are going up, while DHA levels are being cut in half.

When asked, what can people do to improve their memory and brain function in the most effective way possible? Dr. Sears replied, “Find a quality DHA that doesn’t come from a farmed source. Only this will help improve memory by growing the brain significantly bigger.”

Dr. Sears and his team have been working tirelessly for the last 24-months developing a unique brain-boosting formula called Omega Rejuvenol. It’s made from the most powerful source of DHA in the ocean, squid and krill — two species that cannot be farmed.

According to Dr. Sears, these are the purest and most potent sources of DHA in the world, because they haven’t been tampered with. “Omega Rejuvenol is sourced from the most sustainable fishery in Antarctica. You won’t find this oil in any stores.”

MORE IMPRESSIVE RESULTS

Already, the formula has sold more than 27,000 bottles. And for a good reason, too. Satisfied customers can’t stop raving about the memory-boosting benefits of quality-sourced DHA oil.

“I see a noticeable increase in my brain function. I’m experiencing a noticeable increase in my concentration level and productivity throughout the day,” says satisfied customer, Timothy B.

“It’s great to remember everyone who played in the ‘75 World Series. My memory has never been sharper,” says Mike T.

“After the first time I took it, I experienced mental clarity and focus. I noticed my mental function improve and I could concentrate better and be more productive throughout the day,” raves John F.

And 70-year-old Mark K. says, “My focus and memory are back to age-30 levels.”

These are just a handful of the thousands of reviews Dr. Sears receives on a regular basis thanks to his breakthrough memory formula, Omega Rejuvenol.

WHERE TO FIND OMEGA REJUVENOL

To secure bottles of this brain-booster, buyers should contact the Sears Health Hotline at 800-966-9049 within the next 48 hours. “It takes time to manufacture these bottles,” says Dr. Sears. “The Hotline allows us to ship the product directly to customers who need it most.”

Dr. Sears feels so strongly about this product, he is offering a 100%, money-back guarantee on every order. “Send back any used or unused bottles within 90 days and I’ll rush you a refund,” says Dr. Sears.

The Hotline is taking orders for the next 48 hours. After that, the phone number will shut off to allow for inventory restocking.

Call 800-966-9049 to secure your limited supply of Omega Rejuvenol. Readers of this newspaper immediately qualify for a steep discount, but only if they call within the first 24 hours. To take advantage of this great offer use Promo Code NP0322OM53 when you call.

THESE STATEMENTS HAVE NOT BEEN EVALUATED BY THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION. THIS PRODUCT IS NOT INTENDED TO DIAGNOSE, TREAT, CURE OR PREVENT ANY DISEASE. RESULTS MAY VARY

WORLD & NATION

States scramble to use stockpiles of vaccines

Millions of doses that expired have already been tossed

By Jennifer McDermott
Associated Press

As demand for COVID-19 vaccines collapses in many areas of the country, states are scrambling to use stockpiles of doses before they expire and have to be added to the millions that have already gone to waste.

From some of the least vaccinated states, like Indiana and North Dakota, to some of the most vaccinated states, like New Jersey and Vermont, public health departments are shuffling doses around in the hopes of finding providers that can use them.

State health departments said they have tracked millions of doses that went to waste, including ones that expired, were in a multi-dose vial that couldn't be used completely or had to be tossed for some other reason like temperature issues or broken vials.

Nearly 1.5 million doses in Michigan, 1.45 million in North Carolina, 1 million in Illinois and almost 725,000 doses in Washington couldn't be used.

The percentage of wasted doses in California is only about 1.8%, but in a state that has received 84 million doses and administered more than 71 million of them, that equates to roughly 1.4 million doses. Providers there are asked to keep doses until they expire, then properly dispose of them, the California Department of Public Health said.

The national rate of wasted doses is about 9.5% of the more than 687 million doses that have been delivered as of late February, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said last week. That equates to about 65 million doses.

The problem is not unique to the U.S. More than a million doses of the Russian



Packages of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine in cold storage in San Benito, Texas. DENISE CATHEY/THE BROWNSVILLE HERALD 2021

Sputnik vaccine expired last week in Guatemala, because nobody wanted to take the shot.

Vaccination program managers say that tossing out doses is inevitable in any inoculation campaign because of the difficulty in aligning supply and demand for a product with a limited shelf life.

But the coronavirus pandemic has killed more than 6 million people and shattered economies across the globe, and every dose that goes to waste feels like a missed opportunity considering how successful the vaccines are in preventing death and serious disease.

It also comes only about a year after people desperate to get the vaccine attempted to jump in line to get ahead of those deemed higher priority. Hospital board members, their trustees and donors around the U.S. got early access or offers for vaccinations, raising

complaints about favoritism and inequity at a time when the developing world had virtually no doses.

And many poorer nations still have low vaccine rates, including 13 countries in Africa with less than 5% of their population fully vaccinated. They are plagued by unpredictable deliveries, weak health care systems, vaccine hesitancy and some supply issues, although health officials say inventory is markedly stronger than earlier in the pandemic.

In fact, supplies are so strong that the CDC now advises doctors that it's OK to discard doses if it means opening up the standard multi-dose vials to vaccinate a single person and the rest has to be tossed.

"Pivoting to what's happening now, you have much more production and distribution to low-income countries," said Dr. Joseph Bresee, who directs the COVID-19 Vaccine Imple-

mentation Program at the Task Force for Global Health in Decatur, Georgia. "The issue of some stockpiles in the U.S., Germany and Japan, that are not redistributed to sub-Saharan Africa, it's less of an acute problem now because vaccine production and distribution is in high gear right now serving those low-income countries."

The Department of Health and Human Services also said that redistributing states' excess doses to other nations is not feasible because of the difficulty in transporting the shots, which must remain cold, in addition to not being cost effective because of the relatively small number concentrated at sites.

Of the more than 687 million doses sent to states, 550 million to 600 million have been administered, HHS said last week. The vaccines authorized in the U.S., made by Pfizer,

Moderna and Johnson & Johnson, can last for up to about six months from the time of manufacture.

A senior HHS official familiar with vaccine distribution plans took issue with the word "wastage," saying it implies mismanagement when states are effectively overseeing their inventories. The CDC, however, uses the term "wastage" on its website and asks states to report their numbers.

The CDC said the federal government, jurisdictions and vaccine providers have a strong partnership to get as many people vaccinated as possible while reducing vaccine wastage, and that the likelihood of leaving unused doses in a vial may increase as demand slows, even when providers continue to follow best practices to use every dose possible.

The fading demand comes as the pandemic wanes in the U.S. Last week,

the CDC said about 90% of the U.S. population lives in counties where the risk of coronavirus is posing a low or medium threat — meaning residents don't need to wear masks in most indoor settings. That was up from 70% during the last week of February.

The average number of Americans getting their first shot is down to about 70,000 a day, the lowest point since the U.S. vaccination campaign began in December 2020. About 76% of the U.S. population has received at least one shot and roughly 65% of all Americans are fully vaccinated.

With demand so low, states will undoubtedly be confronted with more waste in the months ahead, although they will benefit from any booster expansions.

Immunization managers have been asking for single-dose vials, especially for pediatricians, but it may not work for manufacturers to package it that way yet, said Claire Hannan, executive director at the Association of Immunization Managers. She said wasting vaccine "just can't be an issue."

"We tell this to providers, but the most important thing is getting people vaccinated. And that's hard when the demand goes down. You don't have constant flow," she said. "But that's just a necessary evil, I guess."

HHS said states are ordering prudently, paralleling the drop in demand. The minimum order for Pfizer used to be nearly 1,200 doses but now it's 100, and Moderna reduced the number of doses per vial, the agency said.

"Given what we've seen in terms of the number of people still unvaccinated, I do think finding any way to get the shot in arms, even at the expense of potential wastage, is still important," said Katie Greene, an assistant research director at the Duke-Margolis Center for Health Policy.

NEWS BRIEFING

Half of US adults exposed to harmful levels of lead as kids

From news services

More than 170 million U.S.-born people who were adults in 2015 were exposed to harmful levels of lead as children, a new study estimates.

Researchers used blood-lead level, census and leaded gasoline consumption data to examine how widespread early childhood lead exposure was in the country between 1940 and 2015.

In a paper published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences on Monday, they estimated that half the U.S. adult population in 2015 had been exposed to lead levels surpassing five micrograms per deciliter — the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention threshold for harmful lead exposure at the time.

The scientists from Florida State University and Duke University also found that 90% of children born in the U.S. between 1950 and 1981 had blood-lead levels higher than the CDC threshold. And the researchers found significant impact on cognitive development: on average, early childhood exposure to lead resulted in a 2.6-point drop in IQ.

The researchers only examined lead exposure caused by leaded gasoline, the dominant form of exposure from the 1940s to the late 1980s, according to data from the U.S. Geological Survey. Leaded gasoline for on-road vehicles was phased out starting in the 1970s, then finally banned in 1996.

Study lead author Michael McFarland, an associate professor of sociology at Florida State University, said the findings were "infuriating" because it was long known that lead exposure was harmful, based on anecdotal evidence of lead's health impacts throughout

history.

Though the U.S. has implemented tougher regulations to protect Americans from lead poisoning in recent decades, the public health impacts of exposure could last for several decades, experts told The Associated Press.

"Childhood lead exposure is not just here and now. It's going to impact your life-long health," said Abheet Solomon, a senior program manager at the United Nations Children's Fund.

U.S. virus outbreak: The U.S. will soon begin to run out of money to bolster COVID-19 testing supplies and to guarantee that uninsured Americans keep getting free treatment for the virus unless Congress swiftly approves more funding, the White House warned.

Nearly a year after passage of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan, the administration says the federal government has nearly used up the money dedicated directly to COVID-19 response. More money from Congress is urgently needed to buy antibody treatments, preventative therapy for the immunocompromised and to fund community testing sites, officials say.

"From the COVID side, the bank account is empty," said COVID-19 deputy coordinator Natalie Quillian.

Hawaii tainted water: The Defense Department will permanently shut down the Navy's massive fuel tank facility in Hawaii that leaked petroleum into Pearl Harbor's tap water, and will remove all the fuel, the Pentagon said Monday.

Pentagon press secretary John Kirby said the decision by Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin is based on a new Pentagon assessment, but also is in line with an order



Queen Elizabeth II receives Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau for an audience Monday at Windsor Castle in England. The queen met with Trudeau in her first in-person engagement since recovering from COVID-19. Trudeau was in the United Kingdom for talks on the Ukraine war with Prime Minister Boris Johnson and their Dutch counterpart, Mark Rutte. STEVE PARSONS/PA

from Hawaii's Department of Health to drain fuel from the tanks at the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility.

The tanks, built into the side of a mountain during World War II to protect them from enemy attack, had leaked into a drinking water well and contaminated water at Pearl Harbor homes and offices.

Nearly 6,000, mostly those living in military housing at or near Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam were sickened, seeking treatment for nausea, headaches, rashes and other ailments. And 4,000 military families were forced out of their homes and are in hotels.

Austin spoke with Hawaii government leaders Monday to inform them of the decision, which he said will protect the population and the environment, and will also lay the groundwork for a more secure military fueling system.

Career criminals: The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday

narrowed the reach of a federal law that strengthens penalties for career criminals found to illegally have a gun.

The high court was ruling in the case of a man a lower court classified as a career criminal after counting the man's burglary of 10 different public storage units on a single evening as 10 separate offenses. The high court said unanimously Monday that was an error.

The man's 10 burglary convictions should have been treated as one event rather than separate crimes when considering whether he qualified for a stiffened sentence under the federal Armed Career Criminal Act, the justices concluded.

Without the stronger sentence, the man's recommended sentence would have been approximately two years, but he was instead sentenced to nearly 16.

Capitol riot trial: An armed Texas militia member led a "vigilante mob" that over-

whelmed police officers and became the first group of rioters to breach the U.S. Capitol last year, a federal prosecutor said Monday at the close of the first criminal trial over the riot.

A 12-member jury is set to begin deliberating Tuesday for Guy Wesley Reffitt's trial on charges that he stormed the Capitol with a handgun strapped to his waist and interfered with police officers guarding the Senate doors. He also is charged with threatening his teenage children if they reported him to law enforcement after the attack.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Risa Berkower told jurors that Reffitt drove to Washington, D.C., intending to stop Congress from certifying President Joe Biden's electoral victory, to "overthrow Congress" and to drag lawmakers out of the building. Reffitt proudly "lit the fire" that allowed others in the mob to overwhelm Capitol police officers, the prosecutor said during the trial's

closing arguments.

Defense attorney William Welch didn't call any defense witnesses after prosecutors rested their case.

China outbreak: China is seeing a surge in COVID-19 cases, despite its "zero tolerance" approach to dealing with outbreaks.

The mainland Monday reported 214 new cases of infection over the previous 24 hours, with the most, 69, in the southern province of Guangdong bordering on Hong Kong, which has been recording tens of thousands of cases per day.

Another 54 cases were reported in the Jilin province, more than 1,200 miles to the north, and 46 in the eastern province Shandong.

In his annual report to the national legislature Saturday, Premier Li Keqiang said China needs to "constantly refine epidemic containment" but gave no indication Beijing might ease the highly touted "zero tolerance" strategy.

WORLD & NATION

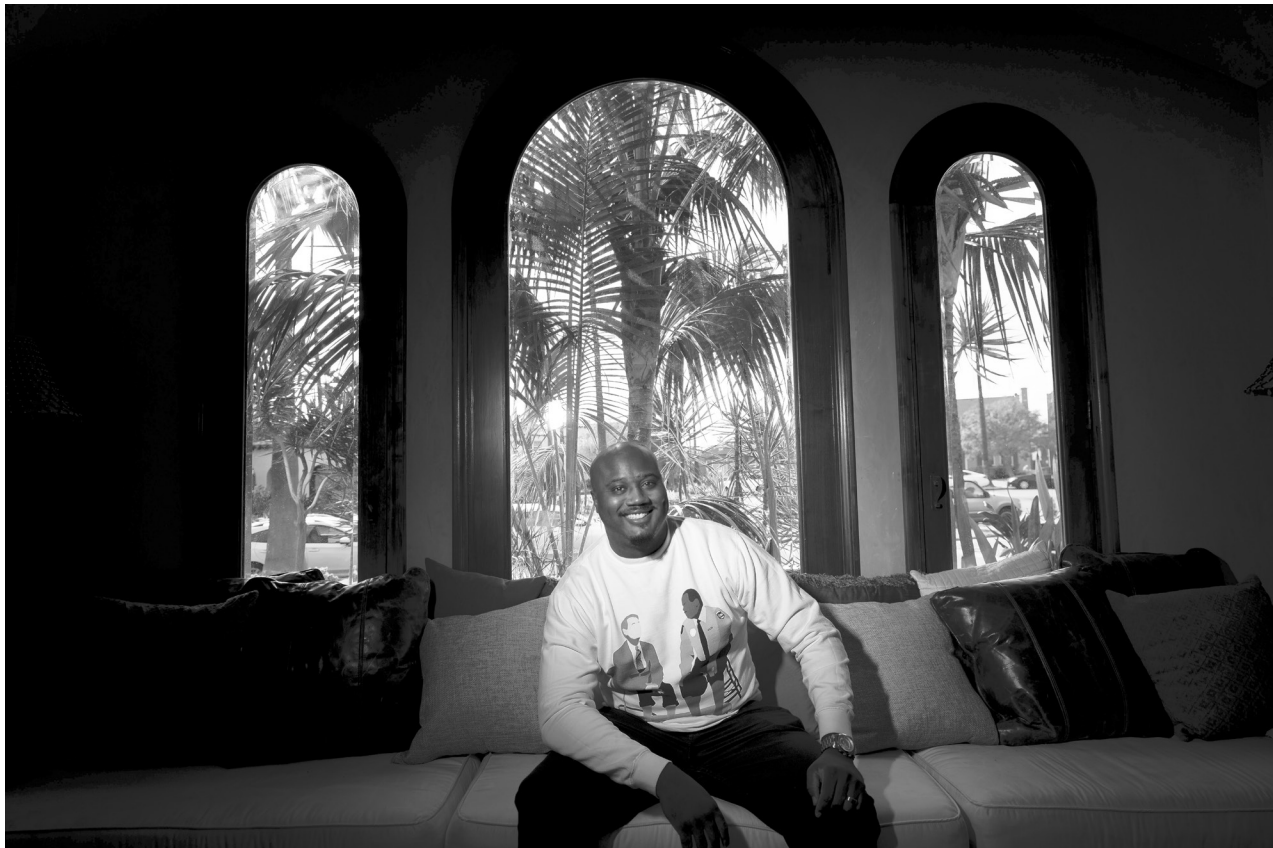
Teachers re-imagine history lessons

Educators keep eye on diversity in drive to critical thinking

By Cheyanne Mumphrey and Annie Ma
Associated Press

PHOENIX — Sit down. Be quiet. Follow instructions. Brandon Brown followed these rules when he started teaching, seeking order in a classroom setting he was all too familiar with growing up. But he quickly realized that was not working for his students and that they were just regurgitating what he told them. So, he decided to get creative. Brown, a former history teacher and assistant elementary school principal, is now a Billboard-charting educational rapper who performs around the country. He founded School Yard Rap, a California-based company that produces music about historical Black, Latino and Indigenous people often not found in traditional textbooks.

“By state standards, my students had to learn about old white slave owners, but they were young Black kids, and it wasn’t connecting,” said Brown, who released his latest album under his stage name, “Griot B.” “This education system is whitewashed completely. But doing what I do, I’m able to introduce and refocus on people of color so students are getting the full range of American history,” he said. Teachers have long sought ways to deliver a complete version of U.S. history that engages their students and includes contributions by people of color. They have been reenergized after the 2020 police killing of George Floyd to take different approaches in the classroom that would challenge an education system many believe doesn’t allow for critical thinking and forces a narrow worldview.



Brandon Brown, a former history teacher, is a Billboard-charting educational rapper. He founded School Yard Rap that produces music about historical Black, Latino and Indigenous people often not found in traditional textbooks. JAE C. HONG/AP 2021

They also are facing increased pressure from politicians and other critics who take issue with how schools address diversity and representation, including a recent push to ban critical race theory, an academic framework centered on the idea that racism is systemic in the nation’s institutions. While there is little evidence that critical race theory itself is being taught to K-12 public school students, some ideas central to it, such as lingering consequences of slavery, have been. Teaching has evolved significantly in the past decade to focus more on critical thinking as opposed to rote memorization, said Anton Schulzki, a history teacher in Colorado Springs and the president of the National Council for the Social Studies. Some of the shift started with the implementation

of Common Core, which placed an emphasis on teaching students how to find and analyze sources. Instead of just learning dates and names, students learn how to form arguments, to find factual evidence to support their claims and to challenge and defend different viewpoints. “We’re trying to get students into this notion of asking questions and being able to take what they are able to do and put into practice that whole inquiry method,” Schulzki said. “We want them to be good citizens, and the way you become a good citizen is you ask questions, and then you try to do something about it.” Students also need to learn more about the resilience and accomplishments of marginalized communities, said John Deville, who has been an educator in Macon County in North Carolina for nearly three decades.

Teachers need to show people of all backgrounds as more than victims and as individuals with agency and power, he said. In his classroom, Deville, who is white, avoids framing individuals as either “villains or plaster heroes,” and he incorporates more than just European and white perspectives on historical events. In a unit on Christopher Columbus, Deville said he spends time creating a vision of the Western Hemisphere prior to European contact and does not diminish the violent ways Native Americans were treated. There is no standardized curriculum across the U.S.; those decisions are made at the local level. As a result, parents, teachers, politicians, and other critics can voice concerns over what some consider a free-for-all of perspectives allowed in the classroom.

Morgan Dick, a spokesperson for the Arizona Department of Education, said civics education, which prepares students to become well-informed, participating members of society, is important because it allows students to engage in “rigorous debate and civil discourse in order to develop their own opinions and learn to respect the perspectives of others.” She also said some topics could at times force people out of their comfort zone. Last month, Republicans in the Arizona House approved a measure that would ask voters to amend the state constitution to ban the teaching of “critical race theory” in schools and bar any preferential treatment based on race. The state Supreme Court struck that law down because it was unconstitutionally included in the budget. In the end, the House

passed a resolution, which is not enforceable. For many teachers, presenting students with different perspectives is the most important part of the job. “Every kid in America knows 1492 Columbus sailed the ocean blue, and they know the three ships, and that’s great,” said Katie Eddings, a middle school social studies teacher in North Carolina’s Lee County. “But do you know what his motivation was during that time period?” Eddings, whose mother is Lumbee, shows her students excerpts from Columbus’ diary and pushes them to discuss what forces might have shaped the voyages, the achievements that resulted, and the harm caused. “I want you to ask questions,” she said. “I want you to be curious about why this happened and why that happened. What was the cause and effect, and is there lasting impact now? What happened then? Is there an impact to us now? Are we better off? I just want them to be thinkers.” Some students may not know the benefit this type of shift in education will have on them until later in life. It is easy to see someone to read a book, but you can’t force that person to connect with it, said Kendall Antoine, one of Brown’s former students who challenged Brown to create his first educational rap in 2012. Antoine, who graduated last year from Morehouse College, a historically Black college, said he still learned what was assigned, but Brown presented it in a more engaging way. He added that he still remembers some of the raps from nearly a decade ago. “It is amazing what Mr. Brown is doing. Something that started off as a passion for music and history, turned into how he could relate to kids to better their education,” Antoine said.

New Zealand confronts a reckoning

Omicron takes hold in a nation that has bowed to pressures

By Pete McKenzie
The New York Times

WELLINGTON, New Zealand — For much of the past two years, COVID-19 was a phantom presence in New Zealand, a plague experienced mostly through news reports from faraway lands. Now it has become a personal threat. New Zealand is being walloped by a major outbreak of the omicron variant, with the virus spreading at what may be the fastest rate in the world. On Thursday, the country reported 23,194 new cases, a once-unthinkable number in a small island nation of about 5 million people where the record daily case count had been in the low hundreds. The explosion in cases has come as the government, under political pressure, loosened its strict regulations meant to prevent the spread of the virus, and as the highly transmissible omicron reduced the effectiveness of the controls that remained. That has filled many New Zealanders with anxiety as they learn to live with the pandemic-related risk the rest of the world has grappled with since early 2020. “For the vast majority of the pandemic, most New Zealanders didn’t know anyone who had COVID-19. That’s changing massively now,” said Siouxsie Wiles, a microbiologist at the University of Auckland. Although the ever-growing case numbers may be unsettling, New Zealand was perhaps as well positioned as it could have been for its deferred reckoning with the virus. Earlier in the pandemic, before the population was widely vaccinated, the country kept infections and



People protest vaccine mandates last month in Auckland, New Zealand. The country is facing its most severe outbreak of the pandemic. PHIL WALTER/GETTY

deaths very low through a stringent quarantine system for incoming travelers, lockdowns during outbreaks and significant isolation periods for those who tested positive or were close contacts. Caseloads often stood at zero, and life for long periods resembled a time before the pandemic. Even after New Zealand began to shift away from a “COVID-zero” strategy after the emergence of the delta variant, case numbers remained relatively small. By the time of the arrival of omicron — which is more contagious but often produces milder symptoms — the country was well protected. Ninety-five percent of New Zealanders older than 12 have been vaccinated, and 57% have had a booster shot.

With this combination of strict measures and widespread inoculation, the country has reported just 56 virus deaths throughout the pandemic — by far the lowest rate of any major democracy. But New Zealand’s initial caution toward the virus became politically untenable this year as citizens living overseas protested limits on their return and business advocates called for fewer restrictions. In response, the government weakened its pandemic controls. At the end of February, it removed many self-isolation requirements, and last week it announced that vaccinated New Zealanders could freely enter the country without isolating or quarantining. New Zealand remains closed to interna-

tional tourists. With the virus now spreading rapidly, the country has been forced to undergo a “big psychological shift,” said Michael Baker, a public health researcher at the University of Otago in Dunedin. Although the approach to managing the virus was once one of “collective protection,” Baker said, it is now one of “much more individual and family responsibility.” The government has tried to prepare the public for this shift by warning that New Zealanders’ experience of the virus would change. Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern noted that “very soon we will all know people who have COVID-19 or we will potentially get it ourselves.” Modelers estimate that

each omicron-positive New Zealander is infecting an average of 4.64 other people — the highest rate among 180 countries analyzed. Experts believe that half the country could be infected within three months. “We’re finally experiencing the difficult side of exponential growth,” Wiles said. “I feel quite nervous about the rest of the year.” Jin Russell, a community and developmental pediatrician at the University of Auckland, said some vaccinated New Zealanders just wanted to get on with their lives. But for families with members who are at heightened risk from the virus, it’s an unnerving time. “And then there are other people who continue to mourn the elimination strategy and are living quite

restricted lives as they try to avoid or delay catching the virus,” Russell said. About 40% of New Zealanders are now working from home, according to Brad Olsen, a senior economist at Infometrics, a consultancy in Wellington. Major outbreaks have also occurred in other countries, including Australia, that loosened strict pandemic measures. Australia’s spike, however, occurred during the Southern Hemisphere summer, which Baker said slowed the virus’s spread. New Zealand’s outbreak has come as workplaces settled into the business year and students headed back to school and college. Ashley Bloomfield, New Zealand’s director-general of health, has called it a “nationwide superspreader event.”

BUSINESS

COURANT.COM/BUSINESS

35 public transit agencies in 18 states to share \$2.2B

Another \$1.5 billion in DOT grants available to help systems buy green fleets

By Hope Yen
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Public transit systems straining to win back riders after being crushed by the COVID-19 pandemic are getting a \$3.7 billion boost to stay afloat and invest in new fleets of electric buses.

With mask restrictions fading and workers beginning to return to offices, the Biden administration said Monday that it was awarding \$2.2 billion in coronavirus relief money from the American Rescue Plan to 35 financially strapped transit agencies in 18 states. The money would be used to prop up day-to-day operations, including staffing and payroll as well as cleaning and sanitization to limit the spread of illness in public transportation.

A federal mask mandate for public transit remains in effect until at least March 18.

Another \$1.5 billion in grants will be made available under President Joe Biden's infrastructure law — a total of \$7.5 billion over five years — for transit agencies to purchase low- or no-emission buses and

build bus facilities. That's more than double the combined amount from the previous year.

Transit agencies will have until May to apply for the Transportation Department's infrastructure grants, which will be awarded by fall. About 5% of the money must be used for workforce training to help transit workers prepare for the technological change.

"We're making the largest ever investment in this program for buses and bus facilities, helping to deliver better commutes and cleaner air to American communities," Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg said.

Buttigieg joined Vice President Kamala Harris and Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Michael Regan at the White House on Monday to unveil a range of actions to promote green-friendly transit and protect health. They included proposed stronger pollution regulations for new tractor-trailer rigs that would clean up smoky diesel engines as well as \$17 million in funding for school districts to buy elec-

tric zero-emission and low-emission school buses. The emissions can cause respiratory problems in humans.

Transportation is the biggest U.S. contributor to global warming.

Only about 55% of transit riders nationwide have returned compared with pre-pandemic times, according to the American Public Transportation Association.

Among the recipients of COVID-19 relief funds Monday were big-city transit systems that had been hit hard by revenue losses due to decreased ridership. New York City's transit system, the nation's largest, garnered \$769 million to steady its operations; San Francisco's Bay Area Rapid Transit, \$270 million; the Washington, D.C., metro system, \$120 million; and Houston's public transit, \$137 million. Houston has significantly added rapid transit bus lines.

"These funds are crucial to avoid drastic service cuts and layoffs that would damage the economy and public health," said Nuria Fernandez, head of the Federal Transit Administration, which oversees the grants.

Gas prices top \$4.06 amid war in Ukraine

Associated Press

Gasoline prices rose overnight, pushing Monday's national average above \$4.06 a gallon, the highest price American motorists have faced since July 2008, according to auto club AAA.

Calls are increasing for the United States to ban imports of Russian oil, and that is adding to prices that were rising long before Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

The conflict, however, has helped push U.S. gasoline prices up 45 cents a gallon in just the past week.

The price of regular broke \$4 a gallon Sunday for the first time in nearly 14 years and is now up nearly 50% from a year ago.

Prices for gasoline in Europe is even higher, averaging 1.75 euros per liter last week, according to the European Commission, the equivalent of \$7.21 per gallon.

GasBuddy, which tracks prices down to the service-station level, said Monday that the U.S. was likely to break its previous record price of \$4.10 a gallon, but that does not account for inflation.

In today's terms, the record price would be equal to about \$5.24 after accounting for inflation.

"Forget the \$4 per gallon mark, the nation will soon set new all-time record highs and we could push closer to a national average of \$4.50," said GasBuddy analyst Patrick De Haan.

"We've never been in this situation before, with this level of uncertainty ... Americans will be feeling the pain of the rise in prices for quite some time."

Benchmark U.S. crude gained 3.2% to close at \$119.40 a barrel, and the international price rose 4.3% to \$123.21 a barrel.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average lost 2.4% and the tech-heavy Nasdaq gave up 3.6%. The S&P 500 fell 3%, its biggest drop in 16 months.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

Moderna makes deal with Kenya

NAIROBI, Kenya — Moderna signed a memorandum of understanding with Kenya's government Monday for the drug-maker's first mRNA vaccine manufacturing facility in Africa, the company said.

The goal is to produce up to 500 million doses of vaccines a year for the African continent, Moderna said in a statement. The focus is on drug substance manufacturing, it said, though the facility could be expanded to include fill-and-finish work.

The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the huge need for vaccine manufacturing on the African continent, which remains the least-vaccinated region in the world against the coronavirus. The continent relies on imports for about 99% of its vaccine needs, the World Health Organization has said.

China's exports rose in Jan., Feb.

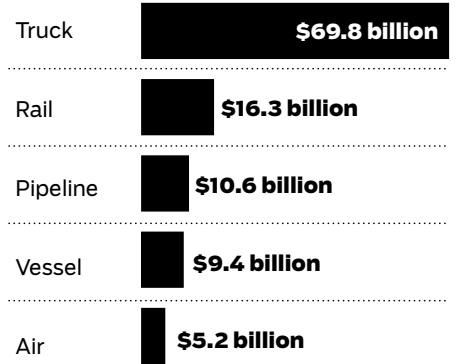
BEIJING — China's exports rose by double digits in January and February before Russia's attack on Ukraine roiled the global economy.

Exports grew by 16.3% over a year earlier to \$544.7 billion in a sign global demand was recovering before President Vladimir Putin's Feb. 24 invasion, customs data showed Monday. Imports advanced 15.5% to \$428.7 billion despite a Chinese economic slowdown that the war threatens to worsen.

Chinese authorities combine trade data for the first two months to screen out fluctuations due to the Lunar New Year holiday, which falls at different times each year in January or February. Factories shut down for up to two weeks, then restock after they reopen.

North America cross border freight

Transborder freight between U.S., Canada and Mexico, December 2021



SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

TNS



Truck drivers stop at a gas station in Emerson, Georgia, north of metro Atlanta, to fill up their tractor-trailer rigs. The Biden administration is proposing stronger pollution regulations for new tractor-trailer rigs that would clean up smoky diesel engines and encourage new technologies during the next two decades. **DAVID TULIS/AP 2014**

Truck tech speeds ahead

Biden, EPA proposes stronger heavy truck pollution limits

By Tom Krisher
Associated Press

DETROIT — The Biden administration is proposing stronger pollution regulations for new tractor-trailer rigs that would clean up smoky diesel engines and encourage new technologies during the next two decades.

The proposal released Monday by the Environmental Protection Agency would require the industry to cut smog-and-soot-forming nitrogen oxide emissions by up to 90% per truck over current standards by 2031. The emissions can cause respiratory problems in humans.

Although truck manufacturers are working on battery-electric and hydrogen fuel cell powertrains, the EPA says the proposal is not a zero-emissions truck requirement. Rather, the agency says there are pollution control devices in development that can keep diesels in use and still clean the air.

The EPA also is drawing up stronger limits for heat-trapping greenhouse gas emissions. Current standards would be updated starting in 2027 and stronger new standards would begin in 2030. Requirements were last updated in 2001, with the next big step coming in 2024.

The stronger new standards would not apply to new trucks, limiting the impact of the new rules.

EPA officials say the new requirements

comply with an executive order from President Joe Biden to clean up transportation, which is the leading source of greenhouse gas emissions nationwide. Transportation emits 29% of the gases, and heavy-duty trucks account for 23% of that. Biden is trying to cut greenhouse gas emissions in half by 2030 to battle the effects of climate change.

The new standards would bring widespread air quality improvements, particularly in areas already exposed to heavy truck traffic, officials say.

"Seventy-two million people are estimated to live near truck freight routes in America, and they are more likely to be people of color and those with lower incomes," EPA Administrator Michael Regan said in a statement.

The agency says it will offer several options to reduce heavy truck and bus pollution, and it will take public comments into account before developing final standards by the end of this year.

"The EPA has engaged with stakeholders and identified several options in the proposal that address the robustness of the standards, timing for phasing in the standards, options to incentivize early clean technology adoption and improvements to emissions warranties," the agency said in a statement.

The EPA also would tighten requirements for school buses, transit buses, commercial delivery trucks and short-haul tractors, areas where the shift to zero-emissions vehicles is farther along.

Early versions of fully electric semis are

now going on sale, and the industry is testing trucks powered by hydrogen fuel cells that generate electricity.

The EPA says that new greenhouse gas standards could help hasten the transition to zero-emissions trucks and buses that weigh over 26,000 pounds.

Currently, battery electric trucks have limited travel ranges, and it takes a long time to recharge batteries. For hydrogen fuel cell trucks, there are few filling stations, and pollution is emitted when most hydrogen is made now from natural gas. But researchers are working on so-called "green hydrogen" that would be made using electricity from renewable sources such as wind or solar.

Under the pollution standards, manufacturers would be required to certify that their trucks meet the stricter requirements or face penalties. The EPA also wants them to lengthen the warranties on emissions controls, making them more cost effective for trucking companies to buy.

The new exhaust-treatment systems would come with a higher cost, as would the warranties, which likely would be passed along to truck and bus buyers. But the EPA says reduced pollution from the most stringent option would save the country up to \$250 billion from 2027 through 2045, largely by preventing deaths and reducing health care costs.

The EPA said the stricter standards would prevent up to 2,100 premature deaths, cut hospital admissions and emergency room visits by 6,700 and prevent 18,000 cases of child asthma.

Russian banks mull using China UnionPay

Associated Press

LONDON — Leading Russian banks are looking into using a Chinese payment rival after Visa and Mastercard suspended operations, while all the big global accounting firms said they would pull out of Russia in the latest corporate fallout over the invasion of Ukraine.

Ernst & Young and Deloitte cut ties Monday with their operations in Russia, both saying they would work to support thousands of colleagues who will be affected. Ernst & Young cited what it called the "shocking and abhorrent war in Ukraine," and Deloitte also said it would exit Moscow-allied Belarus.

KPMG and PricewaterhouseCoopers,

the others among the so-called Big Four accounting firms, announced their exits from Russia a day earlier.

A host of foreign companies have suspended financial services in Russia — as well as major brands from Apple to Shell and Ikea — as part of a larger move by the West to isolate Russia and cut it off from the global financial system.

Visa, Mastercard and American Express withdrew their services over the weekend. That has left Russian banks scrambling to find new ways to facilitate cross-border payments.

Sberbank and Tinkoff Bank said Sunday that they are considering the possibility of payment cards powered by China's UnionPay system.

Sberbank, Russia's largest bank, said it would announce the launch date later.

Sberbank and Tinkoff told users that they will be able to use Visa and Mastercard for transactions within Russia, but they will stop working for payments outside of the country after Wednesday.

The Russian central bank has warned that all cards using the Visa or Mastercard systems will stop working for both purchases on foreign websites and transactions abroad.

China has emerged as a critical connection. Beijing reaffirmed its ties Monday, with the foreign minister describing Russia as China's "most important strategic partner." China has declined to criticize the invasion of Ukraine.

BUSINESS



American whiskey exports, battered by tariffs and the pandemic, started to bounce back in 2021. Above, bourbon for sale at a store in Harmony, Pennsylvania. KEITH SRAKOCIC/AP

Report: American whiskey exports making a comeback

By Bruce Schreiner
Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — American whiskey exports, battered by tariffs and the pandemic, started rebounding in 2021, but distillers have more ground to make up, an industry group said.

Exports of bourbon, Tennessee whiskey and rye whiskey reached \$975 million in 2021, up 15% from the prior year, according to a report issued by the Distilled Spirits Council of the United States. Last year's total was still down 18% from the record high exports — about \$1.2 billion in 2018.

American whiskey distillers got caught up in a trans-Atlantic trade fight, causing deep drops in exports to the European Union — the industry's biggest overseas market.

The EU imposed a retaliatory tariff on those spirits in mid-2018 in response to then-President Donald Trump's decision to slap tariffs on European steel and aluminum. A deal was reached in late 2021 to suspend those tariffs on American spirits.

“U.S. spirits exports are beginning to bounce back and that's definitely a positive sign, but the value of 2021 exports remains far below levels achieved before the 2018 retaliatory tariffs kicked in,” said Rob Maron, the council's vice president of international trade.

But as American whiskey producers work to regrow EU market share, the sector still faces a retaliatory tariff in another key market — the United Kingdom — which continues to curtail growth, Maron said.

Several factors led to last year's rebound, including the reopening of the hospitality sector as COVID-19 restrictions eased, consumers choosing more premium and super-premium American spirits and the lifting of tariffs by key trading partners, the report said.

But distillers face headwinds in redeveloping European sales, including supply-chain problems, said Amir Peay, owner of the Lexington-based James E. Pepper Distillery.

For an industry that requires patience in crafting its products, it will take time

to build back market share.

“The wind is in a much better direction,” Peay said. “But it's just unrealistic to think that we can flick a light switch and just immediately go back to a realistic pace of rebuilding what we lost. “It's just impossible from the situation we're in right now.”

His distillery's signature bourbon and rye brand is James E. Pepper 1776.

Distillers also have to balance the potential for overseas sales with strong domestic demand in deciding how to allocate finite supplies of whiskey. It takes years for whiskey to mature, especially the premium brands in high demand.

Combined U.S. sales for bourbon, Tennessee whiskey and rye whiskey rose 6.7%, or \$288 million, to \$4.6 billion in 2021. Last year, American whiskey accounted for 61% of all U.S. spirits exports in value terms and 38% in volume. The gap reflects the popularity of premium spirits that fetch higher prices.

Tennessee is the nation's leading spirits exporter, followed by Kentucky, the council said.

Effects from climate change to worsen in Africa, UN says

By Wanjohi Kabukuru
Associated Press

Although Africa has contributed relatively little to the planet's greenhouse gas emissions, the continent has suffered some of the world's heaviest impacts of climate change.

Yet from its coral reefs to its highest peaks, the reverberations of human-caused global warming will only get worse, according to a new United Nations report

The U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has predicted that Saharan flooding, heat and drought will increase, Africa's rich array of wildlife and plants will decline and its mountain glaciers will disappear in coming decades.

On a continent already grappling with high poverty levels and food insecurity, the panel warned that fishermen and farmers will feel the pain of future climate change.

Warming temperatures will weaken Africa's food production system by leading to water scarcity and shorter growing seasons, the U.N. report released recently said. Yields of olives, sorghum, coffee, tea and livestock production are expected to decline.

“Agricultural productivity growth has been reduced by 34% since 1961 due to climate change more than any other region,” the panel said.

Climate change, along with conflicts, instability and economic crises, has contributed to hunger. Since 2012, the undernourished population in sub-Saharan Africa has increased by 45.6%, according to the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization. And in 2020, approximately 98 million people suffered from acute food insecurity and needed humanitarian assistance in Africa, said



Stephen Mudoga tries to chase away a swarm of locusts on his father's farm in Elburgon, Kenya. Africa has already been slammed by climate change. BRIAN INGANGA/AP 2021

the Global Report on Food Crises by the World Food Programme.

If the world warms by 1.8 degrees Fahrenheit by 2050, an additional 1.4 million African children will suffer severe stunting from malnutrition that limits growth and cognitive development, the IPCC said.

“The lack of food and undernutrition are strongly linked with hot climates in the sub-Saharan area and less rainfall in West and Central Africa,” the panel said. “Climate change can undermine children's education attainment, thus reducing their chances for well-paid jobs or higher incomes later in life.”

Jean Paul Adam, who heads the climate change division at the U.N. Economic Commission for Africa, said, “Africa constitutes 17% of global population but only accounts for less than 4% of global greenhouse gas emissions. This is the region of the world already being severely impacted of climate change plus having an extremely low adaptive capacity.”

The report said global warming also will hit Africa's famous wildlife and highest mountains.

It predicted glacier ice covers on the Ruwenzori Mountains and Mount Kenya would be gone by 2030 and that Mount Kilimanjaro would lose its ice covers around 2040.

By 2100, the report said, climate change is expected to lead to loss of more than half of African bird and mammal species — and a 20% to 25% decline in the productivity of Africa's lakes and plant species. Increased damage to coral reefs from pollution and climate change is expected to harm fisheries and overall marine biodiversity.

In the coming decades, Africa's mainland, islands and coastal cities will be exposed to climate change risks that can seriously undermine economic sectors such agriculture, tourism, transportation and energy.

The report predicts reduced frequency of Category 5 cyclones, although it says they are projected to be more intense with high impacts upon landfall.

MARKET RUNDOWN

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

DOWN

32,817.38 -797.42

10-YR T-BOND

1.78% +0.06

GOLD

\$1,993.90 +28.80

34,200

33,220

32,240

10 DAYS

Dow Jones industrials

Close: 32,817.38

Change: -797.42 (-2.4%)

37,000

36,000

35,000

34,000

33,000

32,000

S O N D J F M

Domestic Indexes

	CLOSE	CHG.	YTD
DOW Indus.	32,817.38	-797.42	-9.69%
DOW Trans.	14,792.96	-599.45	-10.23%
DOW Util.	996.40	+7.93	+1.59%
NYSE Comp.	15,708.23	-421.43	-8.48%
Nasdaq Comp.	12,830.96	-482.48	-17.99%
S&P 500	4,201.09	-127.78	-11.86%
S&P 400	2,517.18	-98.29	-11.43%
Wilshire 5000	42,188.22	-1,347.54	-12.94%
Russell 2000	1,951.33	-49.57	-13.09%

Commodities

	CLOSE	PREV.	YTD
FUELS			
Crude Oil (bbl)	119.40	115.68	+58.76%
Natural Gas (mm btu)	4.83	5.02	+29.57%
Unleaded Gas (gal)	3.57	3.54	+60.31%
METALS			
Gold (oz)	1,993.90	1,965.10	+9.11%
Silver (oz)	25.71	25.78	+10.22%

Foreign Exchange

	ForEx in U.S. \$	U.S. \$ in ForEx
Britain	1.3106	.7630
Canada	.7808	1.2807
China	.1582	6.3208
Euro	1.0851	.9216
Japan	.008672	115.31
Mexico	.046894	21.3249

Money Rates

	CLOSE	PREV.	WK.
Prime rate	3.25	3.25	
3-mo. T-Bill	0.39	0.38	
6-mo. T-Bill	0.74	0.69	
5-yr T-Note	1.71	1.71	
10-yr T-Note	1.75	1.83	
30-yr T-Bond	2.16	2.17	

Global Markets

	CLOSE	CHG.	%CHG.	%YTD
Frankfurt	12,834.65	-259.89	-1.98%	-19.20%
London	6,959.48	-27.66	-.40%	-5.76%
Hong Kong	21,057.63	-847.66	-3.87%	-10.00%
Nikkei	25,221.41	-764.06	-2.94%	-12.40%

Stocks of Local Interest									
STOCK (TICKER)	CLOSE	CHG.	%CHG	YTD	STOCK (TICKER)	CLOSE	CHG.	%CHG	YTD
AMC Entertainment A (AMC)	15.21	-1.36	-44.1		Microsoft Corp (MSFT)	278.91	-10.95	-17.1	
AT&T Inc (T)	23.57	-.30	-4.2		Mullen Automotive (MULN)	1.06	+.27	-79.7	
Adv Micro Dev (AMD)	102.95	-5.46	-28.5		Norwegian Cruise Ln (NCLH)	15.38	-2.01	-25.8	
American Airlines Gp (AAL)	12.84	-1.75	-28.5		Novartis AG (NVS)	83.54	-1.20	-4.5	
Amphenol Corp (APH)	72.82	-3.41	-16.7		Nvidia Corporation (NVDA)	213.52	-15.84	-27.4	
Apple Inc (AAPL)	159.30	-3.87	-10.3		Occid Petl (OXY)	55.38	-.77	+91.0	
Avangrid Inc (AGR)	45.67	+.64	-8.4		OceanPal Inc (OP)	1.26	+.64	-37.9	
Bank of America (BAC)	38.34	-2.61	-13.8		Otis Worldwide Corp (OTIS)	74.30	-3.66	-14.7	
Barnes Group (B)	42.23	-1.82	-9.4		Palantir Technol (PLTR)	11.11	+.15	-39.0	
Barrick Gold (GOLD)	24.86	+.66	+30.8		Peoples Utd Fncl (PBCT)	20.07	-.16	+12.6	
Bed Bath &Beynd (BBBY)	21.71	+.53	+48.9		Pfizer Inc (PFE)	47.98	-.67	-18.7	
Booking Holdings (BKNG)	1817.16	-167.88	-24.3		Pitney Bowes (PBI)	4.75	-1.0	-28.4	
Brist Myr Sqb (BMY)	68.77	-.59	+10.3		Prudential Fncl (PRU)	102.05	-4.38	-5.7	
CVS Health Corp (CVS)	104.56	-.63	+1.4		Pub Svc Ent Gp (PEG)	67.71	+.11	+1.5	
Carnival Corp (CCL)	15.53	-1.70	-22.8		Raytheon Technolog (RTX)	98.19	-1.40	+14.1	
Carrier Global Corp (CARR)	43.52	-1.48	-19.8		Rogers Corp (ROG)	273.33	+.43	+.1	
Charter Communic (CHTR)	555.64	+.571	-14.8		SS&C Technologies (SSNC)	71.89	-3.78	-12.3	
Cigna Corp (CI)	237.85	-3.78	+3.6		Sirius XM Hldgs Inc (SIRI)	6.38	+.21	+.5	
Citigroup (C)	55.55	-1.04	-8.0		SoFi Technologies (SOFI)	9.62	-.38	-39.2	
Cleveland-Cliffs Inc (CLF)	26.06	+.11	+19.7		Sthwstn Energy (SWN)	5.54	+.16	+18.9	
Clover Hlth Inv (CLOV)	2.60	+.40	-30.1		Stanley Black & Deck (SWK)	152.56	-8.31	-19.1	
Comcast Corp A (CMCSA)	46.30	-.91	-8.0		Starwood Prop Trust (STWD)	22.40	-.98	-7.8	
Disney (DIS)	133.50	-7.22	-13.8		Sundial Growers Inc (SNDL)	.47	-.03	-18.3	
EMCOR Group Inc (EME)	112.21	-2.70	-11.9		Terex Corp (TEX)	35.06	-3.21	-20.2	
Ethan Allen (ETD)	24.50	-1.73	-6.8		TherapeuticsMD Inc (TXMD)	.30	+.09	-15.4	
Eversource Energy (ES)	86.66	+.72	-4.7		Tonix Pharma (TNXP)	.20	-.01	-44.1	
Exxon Mobil Corp (XOM)	87.12	+.303	+42.4		Transocean Ltd (RIG)	4.95	+.71	+79.3	
Ford Motor (F)	15.97	-.88	-23.1		Travelers Cos (TRV)	169.79	-3.61	+8.5	
FuelCell Energy (FCEL)	5.92	+.48	+13.8		Uber Technologies (UBER)	28.57	-1.26	-31.9	
Gen Dynamics (GD)	247.29	+2.00	+18.6		United Airlines Hldg (UAL)	31.20	-5.51	-28.7	
Gen Electric (GE)	85.38	-3.68	-9.6		United Rentals (URI)	298.24	-18.27	-10.2	
Hartford Fn Sv (HIG)	65.38	-2.09	-5.3		US Steel Corp (X)	31.20	-1.22	+31.0	
Honeywell Intl (HON)	182.16	-5.27	-12.6		UnitedHealth Group (UNH)	486.87	-11.78	-3.0	
Horizon Tech Fin (HRZN)	14.67	-.48	-7.9		Virtus Invest (VRTS)	206.73	-13.65	-30.4	
Imperial Petroleum (IMPP)	7.50	+.412	+250.5		Voya Financial (VOYA)	60.82	-2.26	-8.3	
Infosys Ltd (INFY)	22.58	+.12	-10.8		Webster Financial (WBS)	52.19	-3.76	-6.5	
Intel Corp (INTC)	47.68	-.39	-7.4		Wells Fargo & Co (WFC)	45.81	-2.98	-4.5	
Kaman (KAMN)	42.50	+1.16	-1.5		White Mtns Insur (WTM)	1038.48	-18.09	+2.4	
Keycorp (KEY)	22.12	-1.10	-4.4		World Wrestling Ent (WWE)	57.53	-1.16	+16.6	
Lincoln Natl Corp (LNC)	58.17	-3.52	-14.8		XPO Logistics Inc (XPO)	60.29	-6.45	-22.1	
Lucid Group Inc (LCID)	23.17	+.54	-39.1		Xerox Holdings Corp (XRX)	17.63	-.88	-22.1	
MGM Resorts Intl (MGM)	37.48	-4.06	-16.5		Zynga Inc (ZNGA)	9.04	-.10	+41.3	
Marathon Oil (MRO)	24.33	+.52	+48.2						
Meta Platforms Inc (FB)	187.47	-12.59	-44.3						
MetLife Inc (MET)	61.97	-2.01	-.8						

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Helen Bennett
Executive Editor
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OPINION

COURANT.COM/OPINION

OP-ED

Keep Hartford’s Brainard Airport open

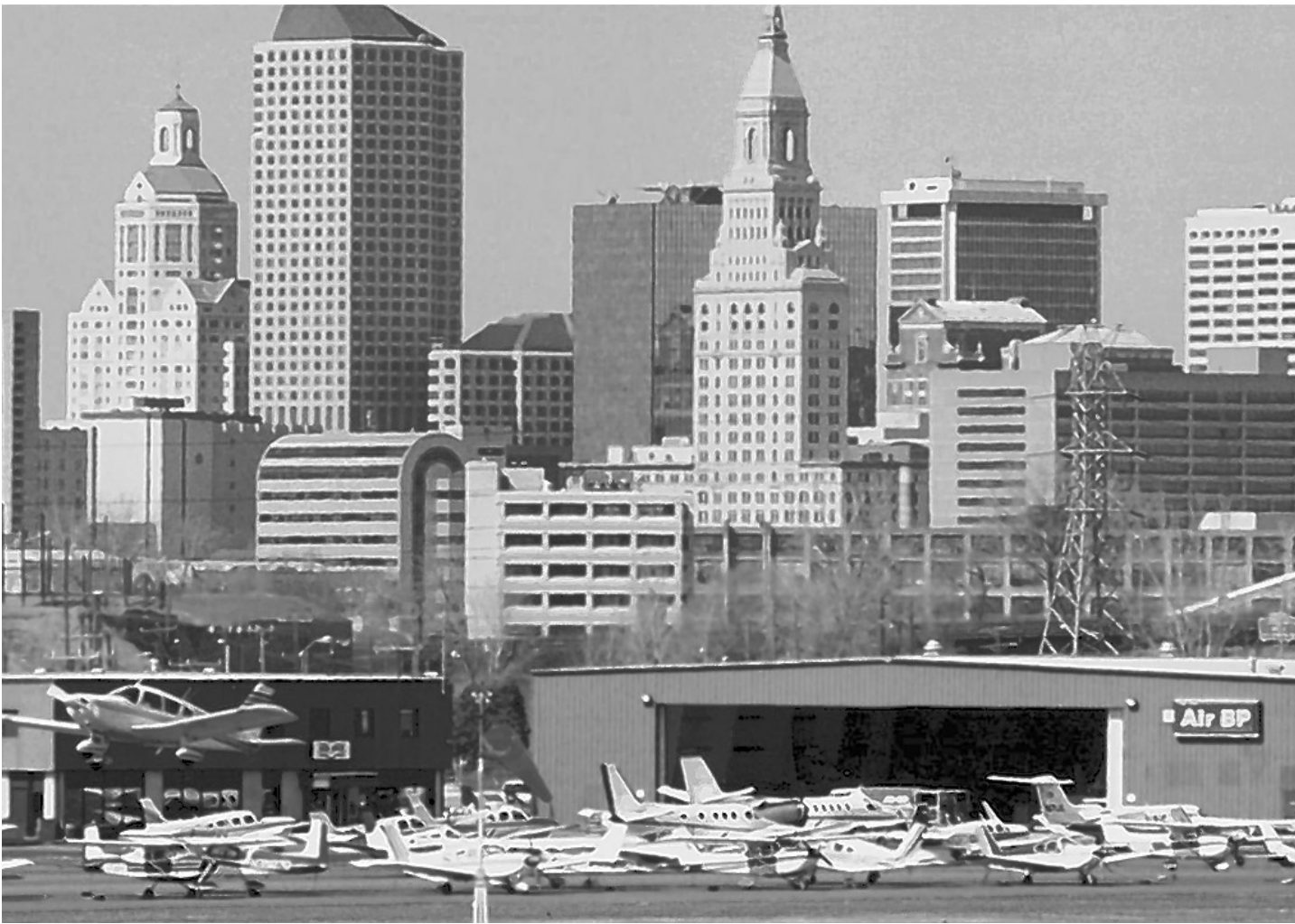
By Michael B. Teiger

As a Connecticut citizen, taxpayer, private pilot and a physician who has worked in Hartford for almost 40 years, I wholeheartedly support keeping Hartford’s Brainard Airport open. Any effort to close the airport would be a short-sighted, serious mistake that could have significant unintended consequences.

Some would like to replace the 101-year-old airport with various development projects, namely high-rise living and upscale shopping that would generate state tax revenue. Since the property, which includes the MDC waste treatment facility and MIRA trash plant, is heavily contaminated, the risky venture would not be possible without long-term hazardous waste clean-up at significant cost to taxpayers. There are plenty of alternative sites along the Connecticut River, including unused landfills to be used for their purposes, if they so desire such a speculative development.

There are other, far more pressing public health and safety needs for the already established Brainard Airport, which is conveniently accessible to nearby hospitals. Consider the need for rapid response in the event of a crisis, whether it is a major weather event, health crisis or an unforeseen threat to public safety. Should a disaster strike the capital city, its populace and neighboring towns would heavily depend on the airport to stage a response, including staging areas for first responders, aircraft and vehicles, headquartered in proximity to major treatment facilities and capable of aiding in rescue or evacuation.

Brainard currently has two runways and two helipads plus personnel and services in place such as the Connecticut State Police Central District HQ (for addressing crimes, fire and explosive threats); CT State Police Aviation Unit with five aircraft; the Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (with eight vehicles for urban search and rescue, disaster relief and emergency communications); Life Star helicopter (for emergency hospital transport); and Civil Air Patrol (two aircraft for search and rescue patrol and defense prepared-



The Hartford skyline overlooks Brainard Airport in March 1990. COURANT FILE PHOTO

ness). Additionally, Brainard offers two flight schools for aviation training and one aviation mechanic training facility. It also serves as a “reliever” airport for Bradley International Airport, helping ease congestion there.

As a pulmonary and critical care physician with decades of experience, I know that large businesses, including insurance companies, and venues such as the state Capitol and Legislative Office Buildings, State Armory, two major hospitals, the Convention Center, Science Center, XL

Center and Bushnell Center, would need nearby facilities to enable a rapid response to any threat scenario. Bradley, 12 miles to the north, would not have the capability or accessibility to respond to a critical event within the Hartford region and rescue citizens in need.

Hartford and the region’s public safety priorities should be carefully considered before a vital airport is closed for a speculative development project. We need to keep this critical facility open and operating rather than replace it with unnecessary

additional development projects or shopping centers. Airports are vital resources in the event of a major disaster, and services and medical emergencies require the availability of exceptional transportation facilities. Hartford and neighboring towns should not accept second-rate status by closing Brainard. Prioritize the important health and safety needs of our community first.

Michael Teiger is the executive director of Hartford Brainard Airport Association Inc.

OP-ED

Using banks to stop tanks — will it work?

By Gary Franks
Tribune Content Agency

President Joe Biden, I had hit the reset button after the exit debacle in Afghanistan. This was a rookie mistake from a near 80-year-old, even if you still do not see it that way. I also hit the reset button on your statements not matching the facts — “I will not leave any Americans behind in Afghanistan,” only to leave behind hundreds.

But, Mr. Biden, when I heard you say that you were going to work “like the devil” to prevent an invasion of Ukraine. I got worried. Yet I wanted to believe you were going to be right. I wanted to believe that the threat of sanctions would deter Russian President Vladimir Putin from invading. You were wrong. Now the Ukrainians are suffering like hell. Wait. But you came back and stated after the invasion that you “never said sanctions would prevent Russia from invading Ukraine.” Wait. The media, on the left and right, would not let you get away with this statement which did not match the facts. They pounced by showing all your top surrogates parroting your feeling and earlier sentiments.

Following Biden’s leadership, the U.S. and the world did not react other than to threaten sanctions as Russia continuously mounted military forces on the border of Ukraine. Biden and European leaders refused to accept or read the writing on the wall - invasion forthcoming. Because Ukraine did not belong to NATO, they had reason not to intervene. But was it morally the right thing to do?

We must never allow that to happen again. We have the intelligence to pick up massive movements of armed forces. From a military perspective, we must match if not surpass whatever an adversary is doing to checkmate them - thus preventing a military conflict in the first place.

Now, I fear, it is too late. Ukraine is over matched. It is highly unlikely the Ukrainians are going to have a “Taliban moment” where they force a powerful nation to fumble. Without the help of the U.S. military or European forces they will be crushed.

So, we have two choices: intervene or help the Ukrainians understand they need to stand down, seek another day, and another way to prevail.

Watching from the sidelines as the innocent kid gets his butt kicked by the schoolyard bully is not what I ever thought we would be subject to. That should not be an option.

Ukrainians do not deserve this fate. It is truly a case of evil beating the innocent, at least for now. Remember Russia and Afghanistan.

Proclaiming that the bully — Putin — is bad, or maybe mentally unstable, really does not help matters.

According to a recent poll, most Americans do not feel Biden is up to the job. Only 37% approve of his job performance with just 33% supporting his handling of this crisis. That’s troubling.

This brings us to strategy. We proclaimed we do not want to fight or bring about World War III. It is like a football team telling its opponent it won’t run the ball. It will only pass. This creates



Damages to a building in Kharkiv’s Constitution Square after shelling Wednesday by Russian forces. SERGEY BOBOK/GETTY-AFP

a self-fulfilling prophecy as to the outcome of the game. Winning teams leave all options on the table.

If you are reluctant to fight, the bully will push you to fight. Fear emboldens the bully. He will eventually throw sand in your eyes to get a reaction out of you. That would encourage him to pounce on you. Everyone who has gone to a public grade school has seen this movie.

The other thing to remember is that once a bully engages in a fight, he needs an exit ramp or else it could get bad for everyone involved. Without it, he can become irrational.

Biden and European leaders seem to accept this scenario playing out. They’ll use banks to stop the tanks.

Will it work? We must pray it does. Otherwise, we would have a lot on our consciences — that we had the ability to stop this beating and did nothing meaningful to help.

I wonder how America will appear in this history. If you had the wherewithal to save lives but opted not to do so, it is unfortunate

Punishing Russia via sanctions is an entirely different matter with its unique challenges. In time we’ll see if this strategy plays out for better or worse. We should remember that excessive sanctions failed with the Empire of Japan. It led to Pearl Harbor.

But the worse aspect of this experience is painful because we are viewing the hourly atrocities on television, knowing that the world’s greatest democracy, the wealthiest nation on earth, with the most powerful military in the world, is standing by on the sidelines, watching.

May God help Ukraine.

Gary Franks served three terms as U.S. representative for Connecticut’s 5th District. He was the first Black Republican elected to the House in nearly 60 years and New England’s first Black member of the House. Host: podcast “We Speak Frankly.” Author: “With God, For God, and For Country.” @Gary-Franks(C)2022

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We welcome all submissions and will publish the best. We especially look for younger writers and those whose voices aren’t heard often enough. Essays should be 600-700 words, written in the first person and emailed to oped@courant.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Strong reporting on homelessness

Many thanks to Seamus McAvoey and the Hartford Courant for an excellent and comprehensive article on why Hartford’s bold and coordinated steps to address homelessness have been successful [Page 1, Feb. 21, “Hartford a housing program leader”]. The descriptions of agencies, individuals and their work using the “housing first” approach was informative, helpful and encouraging. This is why I appreciate receiving the Courant each day.

Patricia Horgan, West Hartford

Happy to answer question for all Democrats

In a letter to the editor that appeared in the Courant on Feb. 21, the writer asked that Democratic candidates answer some questions. I am not running for office but I am a Democrat and will gladly answer the questions. Donald Trump did win the 2016 election by winning more electoral votes than his opponent. But I must add that he lost the popular vote by close to 3 million votes. He then served four years where he showed himself to be a terrible president and a worse person. He was justifiably voted out of office in 2020, decisively and fairly.

In terms of the Mueller report, the conclusions reached were left open to interpretation. I do know that during the 2016 presidential campaign, I heard Trump begging the Russians to hack into Hillary Clinton’s emails. Does the writer of the letter believe there was nothing wrong in asking an adversarial foreign power to do such a thing?

No answer required. I think I know what it would be.
Kevin Knox, Litchfield

Darien could learn a lot from Manchester

On Feb. 19-20, Manchester held its third annual UNESCO’s International Mother Language Day, celebrated around the world. There were not only words, but actions by town leaders such as the mayor, superintendent of schools, board of ed, etc. Manchester has embraced the essence of this day, the preservation and celebration of linguistic and cultural diversity as a unifier.

That is an anomaly in these divisive days when the Darien school board rejects Open Choice to allow up to a 16 children, from diverse backgrounds in Norwalk, to attend kindergarten in Darien.

Why? The board members raised concern for larger class sizes, unknown future enrollment and purported financial burdens for a district where the per pupil expenditure in 2020 was \$65,227. Manchester’s per pupil expenditure is about \$17,000. Connecticut is enlightened and inclusive, in some places.

Darien could learn a lot to prepare its students to live in the 21st century by adopting Manchester’s credo of building bridges, not walls.

Roland G. Axelson, Wethersfield

Courant should cover hockey like basketball

The Hartford Courant sports section uses a majority of its sports writing on boys and girls basketball. However, there are boys and girls hockey players all over our state and also many adult hockey groups throughout Connecticut. There is more hockey than you might think. Let us all hope the Hartford Courant will change its coverage to a 50-50 balance between these two sports.

Bob Hall, West Hartford



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PUBLIC NOTICES

Hartford

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF PORTLAND, CONNECTICUT
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

FOOD SERVICE MANAGEMENT COMPANY
CONTRACT
RFP# 2022-09

The Town of Portland is accepting propos-
als for a FOOD SERVICE MANAGEMENT
COMPANY CONTRACT, Proposal 2022-09, for
the Portland Board of Education until 11:00
a.m. on April 12, 2022.

There will be a non-mandatory pre-proposal
meeting and walk through to be held on
March 16, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. at Portland
Town Hall, 33 East Main Street, Room 204,
Portland, CT 06480

All sealed envelope or boxed submittals
should be clearly marked RFP 2022-09
PORTLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION FOOD
SERVICE MANAGEMENT COMPANY
CONTRACT and shall be received by the
Finance Department, addressed as follows:

TOM ROBINSON, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE
Town of Portland
Room 204, Portland Town Hall
33 East Main Street/R.O. Box 71

The specifications for the Request for
Proposal are available for pick up at the
Finance Dept. Office, Room 204, Portland
Town Hall, 33 East Main Street, Portland
Connecticut 0640 during normal business
hours, or may be requested by email ad-
dressed to TRobinson@portlandct.org. The
documents will also be available on the CT
source website.

The right is reserved by the Portland Board
of Education to reject any or all submittals,
to waive any informalities or defects in
submittals, to obtain such supplemental
information as may be necessary to review
submittals and to accept the Request for
Proposals that, in the judgment of the
Portland Board of Education, will be in the
Board's best interests.

Town of Portland, CT
Submitted By: Tom Robinson, Director of
Finance
Dated: March 8, 2022
3/8/22 : 7164863

Connecticut

The Consolidated School District of New
Britain
Invitation to Bid

The Consolidated School District of New
Britain, will be accepting bid proposals for
the following equipment:

Access Control System utilizing the FEENICS
Platform.

Bid specifications maybe solicited by email
via Smedley@csdnb.org until March 3, 2022
and will be provided digitally only. Please call
860-827-2217 for information or questions.
Mandatory building walk-throughs will take
place March 14, 2022.

All Submissions will be due March 25, 2022
by Noon.

All details related to the above bid opening
and walk-throughs (if required) can be found
in the individual bid documents.
3/7, 3/8/2022 7163725

Public Notice

The Local Board of the Emergency Food and
Shelter Program of Litchfield, Middlesex,
Tolland, and Windham Counties announces
availability of Phase ARPA-R funding, in the
amount of \$456,752.

These are Federal Emergency Management
Agency funds to provide basic emergency
services for the hungry and/or homeless and
those at risk of chronic hunger or homeles-
ness within the above mentioned counties.

Funds will be allocated to agencies that
have the capability to provide emergency
food and/or shelter services and that are
authorized and incorporated not-for-profit
entities. Under the terms of the grant from
the National Board, local agencies chosen to
receive funds must: 1) be private voluntary
non-profits or units of government; 2) have an
accounting system; 3) practice nondiscrimi-
nation; and 4) must have a voluntary Board.

To request an application, please email jen-
nifer.johnson@ctunitedway.org.

Jennifer Johnson
United Way of Connecticut
1344 Silas Deane Highway
Rocky Hill, CT 06067
(860) 571-7500 Phone
(860) 571-7525 Fax

Application deadline is March 30, 2022.
3/8/2022 7165069

LEGAL NOTICE AND INVITATION TO BID
THE OPERA HOUSE PLAYERS RENOVATION
OF 100 HIGH ST, ENFIELD
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES

The Opera House Players is seeking a quali-
fied engineering firm to provide services for
the renovation of 100 High St. This is a State
funded project through the Department of
Economic and Community Development.

A mandatory walk-through is scheduled for
Tuesday March 15th at 11:00 am. Masks are
required to enter the building. RFP responses
must be received by 5:00 p.m., Monday,
March 28, 2022. Any responses received
after the deadline will not be considered.

The RFP documents are available on The
Opera House Players' website at www.op-
erahouseplayers.org/rfp. Questions may be
submitted by email at rfp@operahouseplay-
ers.org. The Opera House Players reserves
the right to accept or reject any, all, or any
part of the responses, and to make awards
that are deemed to be in the best interest of
The Opera House Players.

3/5, 3/8, 3/10/2022 7162981

INVITATION TO BID

Sealed bids will be accepted for School
Vestibule Security Improvements until Friday,
April 1, 2022 at 2:00pm in the Finance Office
of the Newington Board of Education, 200
Garfield Street, Newington, CT. Bids will be
opened at that time.

There will be a non-mandatory pre-bid
meeting on Friday, March 18, 2022 at
3:45pm starting at Ruth Chaffee Elementary
School, 160 Superior Ave, Newington, CT.
The meeting will conclude at John Paterson
Elementary School, 120 Church Street,
Newington. Any specifications and/or draw-
ings will be available for download prior to
this meeting.

The bid encompasses the purchase and
installation of glass and frames for use in
upgrading the security of school vestibules in
the district. General specifications and other
bid data may be obtained from the Newington
Board of Education web site:

https://www.npsct.org/resources/current_
bid_opportunities, or at the above address.

The Board of Education reserves the right
to reject any or all bids in the best interest
of the Town of Newington and its school
department.

Lucian G. Jachimowicz
Chief Finance & Operations Officer
3/8/2022 7165033

PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with City of Hartford Municipal
Code Section 29-16, the Hartford Police
Department is in possession of unclaimed
found property for which the owner cannot
be located.

If you believe that some of this property is
yours, phone the HPD Property Room at 860
757-4180 weekdays 7:A.M to 2:30 P.M. Be
prepared to provide a detailed description of
the property, the circumstances of its loss,
and proof of ownership as necessary.
Positive identification is required before prop-
erty will be released. If not claimed, items
may be sold at public auction, destroyed,
donated, or released to a finder.
1/4-3/29/2022 7112251

Public Notice

The Local Board of the Emergency Food and
Shelter Program of Litchfield, Middlesex,
Tolland, and Windham Counties announces
availability of Phase 39 funding, in the
amount of \$147,779.

These are Federal Emergency Management
Agency funds to provide basic emergency
services for the hungry and/or homeless and
those at risk of chronic hunger or homeles-
ness within the above mentioned counties.

Funds will be allocated to agencies that
have the capability to provide emergency
food and/or shelter services and that are
authorized and incorporated not-for-profit
entities. Under the terms of the grant from
the National Board, local agencies chosen to
receive funds must: 1) be private voluntary
non-profits or units of government; 2) have an
accounting system; 3) practice nondiscrimi-
nation; and 4) must have a voluntary Board.

To request an application, please email jen-
nifer.johnson@ctunitedway.org.

Jennifer Johnson
United Way of Connecticut
1344 Silas Deane Highway
Rocky Hill, CT 06067
(860) 571-7500 Phone
(860) 571-7525 Fax

Application deadline is March 30, 2022.
3/8/2022 7165077



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OBITUARIES

Crowley, Thomas J.



Thomas J. Crowley, 74, of Newington passed away on Saturday, March 5, 2022. Born and raised in Hartford, he was the son of the late Edmund and Mary (Flanagan) Crowley. He resided in New Britain prior to settling in Newington over 30 years ago. He graduated from Northwest Catholic High School where he enjoyed playing various sports including basketball. Thomas honorably



served his country in the U.S. Marine Corps completing two tours of duty in Vietnam. He retired from Cigna after many years of employment. Thomas continued his love of sports throughout his life, playing on men's softball leagues and following the Red Sox and UConn basketball teams. He was a proud patriot and a member of the VFW Post 9836 Newington. He is survived by his aunt and uncle, James and Dorothy Crowley of Newington, his close friends, Mary Jane "MJ" and Tim Ahern of Newington, and many cousins. A graveside service with military honors will be held on Wednesday, March 9th, at 11:30 a.m. at West Meadow Cemetery Chapel, 679 Willard Ave., Newington. Duksa Family Funeral Homes at Newington Memorial, 20 Bonair Ave., Newington is serving his family. Memorial donations may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project at www.woundedwarrior-project.org. To share a memory, please visit us at www.duksa.net.



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Gavin, Rosemary (Johnson)



Rosemary Ann (Johnson) Gavin of Westfield, MA passed away on March 3, 2022. Rosemary was born in Glendale, CA on September 22, 1933 to Rose C. (Geehern) and Daniel F. Johnson. Rosemary was a kind, caring, and lovely presence for all who knew her. She graduated from Westfield High School in 1951 and began a career with New England Telephone and Telegraph Company as a switch board operator. She went on to hold different positions with the company and retired from the Phone Store. Rosemary was married to Tom for 64 years and was very dedicated to her family. Rosemary enjoyed the house or porch filled with company and that she had "on Broadway". She loved to bake, discover new recipes, and visit the coast of Maine. She was an avid walker and reader. She was one of Noble Hospital's longest serving volunteers and a member of St. Mary's Confraternity of the Most Holy Rosary. She was predeceased by her husband Tom in 2021. Rosemary is survived by her four children: Daniel and his wife Crystal, Faith and her husband Chuck, Jerome and his wife Donna, and Maureen. She also leaves cherished grandchildren Ben, Sean, Tim, and Shannon, plus great grandson Colt. Thanks to the staff at Heritage Hall West for the loving care and support given to Rosemary. Calling hours will be on Saturday, March 19th, from 9:00am-10:30am at Firtion-Adams Funeral Home, 76 Broad Street, Westfield. A Mass of Christian Burial will follow at 11:00am at St. Mary's Church, Bartlett Street, Westfield. Burial will follow in St. Mary's Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations in memory of Rosemary may be made to St. Mary's Church, 35 Bartlett Street, Westfield, MA 01085. www.firtionadams.com

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Hall, John Stagg



John Stagg Hall, age 92, of Linwood and Galloway passed away in hospice care at Shore Memorial Hospital on March 2, 2022. Born June 30, 1929, in New Brunswick, NJ, he was the son of John Greenwald Hall and Elsie Stagg Hall, both now deceased. He retired as the Managing Director of Marsh & McLennan's Hartford, CT office in 1989. John was a veteran of the Korean War serving as a First Lieutenant in the US Army Ordnance Corps. John lived with his wife Miriam in Duxbury, MA, Mt. Laurel, NJ, Stonington, CT, Galloway, and Linwood NJ. He and Miriam shared a love of sailing and kept their sailboat, The Duxbury, moored at Dodson's Boatyard in Stonington Harbor for many years. John and his brother-in-law and best friend, Theodore Stieve, were avid Sporting Clays players, continuing to shoot clays at the Cedar Creek Sporting Clays in Millville, NJ, into their early nineties. John had a deep and lifelong devotion to the Roman Catholic faith. Survivors include his children: Elizabeth, Mark, and John, and grandchildren Hunter and Luke. John was preceded in death by his wife Miriam in 2016 and sister, Virginia Nobel, in 2006. Memorial contributions in lieu of flowers may be given to Ducks Unlimited which supports wetlands and waterfowl conservation across North America. www.ducks.org. Condolences may be extended to the family at ghwimberg.com.

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Hilbert, Lillian (Kamins)



Lillian Kamins Hilbert, 96, died peacefully on the morning of Sunday, March 6, 2022 following a long illness. Born in Hartford, she was the daughter of Aaron and Anne (Operowsky) Kamins who operated A. Kamins Department Store in Hartford. Lillian graduated from Weaver High School, Class of 1943, attended Hartford College for Women, and graduated from Smith College, Class of 1947. She worked for many years in retail sales at the Strong Craft Gallery, located in the Hartford Civic Center, at G. Fox in the Winterthur Shop, and at Lux Bond & Green. Lillian lived most of her adult life in West Hartford, moving to Seabury in Bloomfield in 2005. She enjoyed playing bridge, going to the Hartford Symphony and spending time with family and friends, especially her beloved grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband of 40 years, Joseph Hilbert, who taught Latin and French at Weaver High School. She leaves behind her daughter, Debra Hilbert, and Debra's husband, Andrew Knapp, her son, Jonathan Hilbert and his wife Noa Ben David, and her two grandchildren, Roxanne Knapp and David Knapp. A funeral service will be held at the Jonathan Lodge Cemetery on Tower Avenue, Hartford on Wednesday, March 9, 11:00 a.m. Donations may be made to Hadassah (www.hadassah.org) or the Seabury Charitable Foundation (seaburylife.org). Online condolences may be made at weinsteinmortuary.com.

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Kalisz, Krystyna



Krystyna Kalisz, 61, of South Windsor, passed away on Saturday, March 13, 2022, at her home. Born in Nowe Zukowice, Poland on March 13, 1960, daughter of the late Czeslaw and Genowefa (Witek) Kalisz, she was raised in Poland and immigrated to the United States with her family in 1964. After living in Westfield, MA for a brief time, she settled in Hartford with her family and was a graduate of Bulkeley High School. After high school, Krystyna continued her education at the Morse School of Business and later took a position in the information technology department at The Hartford Insurance Company where she worked for many years. For the last 10 years, Krystyna had worked at Atlas Driving School in West Hartford where she was a book-keeper and driving instructor. Krystyna's central focus in life was her family whom she lovingly cared for throughout her life. She was a parishioner of SS. Cyril & Methodius Church in Hartford for most of her life. She leaves a brother, Theodore Kalisz and his wife Rosalie of Marlborough; a nephew and niece, Michael and Katie Kalisz both of Marlborough; an aunt, Irene Fanelli of Wethersfield; two cousins, Richard Fanelli of Newington and Robert Fanelli of Wethersfield; and many other aunts, uncles, and cousins in Poland. Besides her parents, she was predeceased by two brothers, John and Robert Kalisz; and a sister, Kasia Kalisz. Her family will receive friends on Thursday, March 10, 9-10 a.m., at the Waszkelewicz South Green Memorial Home, 43 Wethersfield Ave., Hartford, followed by Mass of Christian Burial, 10:30 a.m., at SS. Cyril & Methodius Church, Hartford. Burial will follow in St. Mary Cemetery, Westfield, MA. Memorial donations may be made to SS. Cyril & Methodius Church, 55 Charter Oak Ave., Hartford, CT 06114. For online condolences please visit, www.carmonfuneralhome.com.



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Perez, Martin



Martin Perez, 83, of Hartford, beloved husband of 46 years to Ana Santana-Perez, passed away peacefully Saturday, March 5th at his home. Born February 19th, 1939 in Isabella, Puerto Rico, he was the son of the late Rufino and Maria (Ruiz) Perez. Prior to retiring, Martin was a machinist at Windsor Manufacturing. After his retirement, Martin devoted his life to his faith and the church and served for many years as an usher at Maria Reina de la Paz.

Besides his wife, Martin is survived by his children, Miguel J. Perez and his wife Miriam Cruz-Perez, Luz M. Perez, Norberto Perez, Martin Perez, Jr. and his partner, Susan Tienken. his step-children, Nereida Ortiz, Elizabeth Rojas, Evelyn (Ortiz) Schrijn and her husband John Schrijn, Angel Ortiz and his partner Elizabeth Vasquez, his sister, Mina Rios, 22 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his son, Jose Perez (his living partner Sonia Rodriguez), and his brothers, Marcial Perez and Ernesto Perez.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated Thursday, March 10th at 11:00am in Maria Reina de la Paz Parish located at St. Lawrence O'Toole Church, 494 New Britain Ave., Hartford. All are kindly asked to meet directly at church. Burial will be in Cedar Hill Cemetery, Hartford. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Maria Reina de la Paz Parish, 494 New Britain Ave., Hartford, CT 06106. Arrangements are being handled by The Ahern Funeral Homes, Inc., www.ahernfuneralhome.com.

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Roberge, Adeline



Adeline Roberge, 95, of Newington, passed away peacefully with her family by her side, on December 28, 2021. She was born on February 1, 1926, in Frenchville, Maine, the daughter of the late Denis and Roseanna (Bouchard) Michaud. She lived in Frenchville until the age of 15 and moved to New Britain where she graduated from New Britain High School in 1944. She then met and married her late husband Herman Roberge, and they raised their 6 children. When Herman passed away at an early age, she proved her resilience by learning how to drive, getting a job with the State of CT, and continuing to raise their children. Throughout her life she persevered. She grew up on a farm without running water or electricity to years later learning how to flip through Facebook to make sure she knew what was going on. Adeline was a longtime member of St. John the Evangelist Church of New Britain and a member of the St. Jean-Baptiste Societe Womens' Auxiliary for many years. She enjoyed playing cards and Yahtzee with her family, making jigsaw puzzles, and watching the Boston Red Sox play. She loved vacationing with her family, the beach, camping, and people watching at her pool. Above all, her favorite thing to do was spend time with her family.

Adeline is predeceased by her husband Herman Roberge, her son Daniel Roberge, her brother Theo, and her sisters Theoline, Lucille, Carmen, Alphaena, and Juliette. She is survived by her beloved children; her daughter Sandra Tilley of Newington, son Richard Roberge and his wife Denise of Berlin, son Paul Roberge and his wife Lillian of Kensington, son James Roberge of Meriden, and daughter Judith Lombard of Rocky Hill. She also leaves her cherished grandchildren; Joseph Roberge and his wife Alaina, Lisa Roberge, Paul Edward Roberge, Richard Roberge, Jeffery Roberge and his wife Beth, Sarah Tilley, Kimberly Lechowicz and her husband Steve, Lauren Roberge, Kaelee Roberge, Dylan Lombard, and Grace Lombard. She is also survived by twelve great grandchildren, many nieces and nephews, and two sisters-in-laws: Noella Roberge and Nancy Roberge.

Adeline surprised everyone with her sharp wit. She was a wise woman who inspired us with her faith, love for her family, grace, honesty, integrity, and kindness. She will be missed by all those who knew her. Our family would like to thank all her physicians for their kindness, patience, and care throughout the years, especially Dr. Alicia Harbut her PCP. We are also very grateful to the team at Enliven Group for their guidance and care. Friends may greet the family on Friday, March 11, 2022 from 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM at Luddy & Peterson Funeral Home, 205 South Main St, New Britain, CT. A Mass of Christian Burial will follow at 10:30 AM at St. John the Evangelist Church at 655 East Main St, New Britain. Interment will immediately follow to St. Mary's Cemetery, 1141 Stanley St, New Britain. Donations in Adeline's name can be made to The American Heart Association. Share a condolence or a special memory of Adeline at www.luddyandpetersonfh.com.

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Chernovetz, Pamela D. (Donnelly)



Pamela Donnelly Chernovetz, 75, returned to the loving arms of Almighty God on March 5, 2022 after a brief battle with cancer. She is survived by her beloved husband of 54 years Michael Allan Chernovetz, son Michael Nicholas Chernovetz and his wife Jill Chernovetz of Glastonbury, CT granddaughters Margaret Chernovetz, Kathryn Chernovetz, and Rebecca Chernovetz, brothers Neil Donnelly and his wife Debby Donnelly of Durham, NC and Bryan Gates of Jacksonville Florida, mother-in-law Gabrielle Chernovetz of Salmon Brook Rehabilitation Center, sister-in-law Adele Chernovetz Finer and her husband Harry Finer, of Glastonbury, CT nieces Lori Finer Grant and her husband Jimmy Grant, of Missoula MT, Kara Finer Rogers of Glastonbury CT. Pam was predeceased by her son Mark Christopher Chernovetz in 2009.

She was a frequent daily Mass attendee and communicant of Saint Michael Catholic Church in Murrells Inlet, South Carolina and one of many adorers in the Eucharistic Adoration Chapel. Pam lived the Cursillo weekend in 2000 through the Archdiocese of Hartford and continued her Group Reunions with the Cursillistas she met after relocating to South Carolina. She cherished her time that she got to spend sharing and learning the faith from these remarkable women. Pam also shared a devotion through different prayer groups to the protection and sanctity of priests. Pam retired from the State of Connecticut, Department of Correction after 25 years of service from which she maintained and valued many close friendships. A Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated Tuesday March 8 2022 at Saint Michael Catholic Church, Murrells Inlet, S.C. Interment will follow immediately after Mass in the Columbarium.

You can honor Pam's memory by donating to EWTN. com or TheDivineMercy.org
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Miller, Sr., Richard A.



Richard A. Miller, Sr. passed away on Friday March 4, 2022 at St. Francis Hospital, Hartford, CT. Dick, also known as Bill to his six older siblings, was born in Jackson, MI on September 20, 1931 to George and Herma (Fauver) Miller. His family moved to Erie, PA where Dick was raised. He married fellow Strong Vincent High School student Donna Randall, the love of his life. A graduate of Penn State University, Dick attended law school at the University of Michigan where he earned his JD three years later. After law school, Dick and Donna returned to Erie to raise their family and Dick began his long career with Travelers Insurance Company. In Erie, Dick was active in the Jaycees and served as a Deacon in the First Presbyterian Church of the Covenant. Later, Dick was promoted to Travelers' home office in Hartford, CT. He enjoyed fishing in Michigan and Vermont, visiting with family, and relaxing in the yard with a cigar or pipe. He was a sports' fan and loved to root for his Michigan Wolverines, Penn State Nittany Lions, UConn Huskies and New England Patriots. He is survived by his wife of 70 years, Donna, of Simsbury, CT, his sister Marilynn (Miller) Jewell of Michigan, his daughter Deborah and her husband John Pelham of Granby, MA, their daughters Erin with her husband Matthew Childers, and Sarah; his son Richard Miller, Jr. and wife Lauren (Kula) Miller, formerly of West Simsbury, CT, now of Venice, FL, and daughters Chelsea and Meredith; his daughter Brenda and her husband Pradeep Bajaj of Simsbury, CT, their daughter Priya, and son Ben and his wife Kayleigh; his great-grandchildren Eliza, Adelyn and Sam Childers; and, numerous nieces and nephews. Dick was preceded in death by brothers Herbert (Hugh), Robert, and Charles (Chuck) Miller and sisters Audrey (Miller) Davis and Doris (Miller) Koch. He will be interred in the Simsbury Cemetery, following a private service. Vincent Funeral Home in Simsbury, CT will be handling all arrangements. The family is grateful to all the healthcare professionals who provided care during these recent years and asks that any donations on Richard's behalf be made to your local Meals on Wheels. Please visit Richard's "Book of Memories" at www.vincentfuneralhome.com for online tributes.

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O'Connor, Patrick B.



Patrick B. O'Connor, 51 of Norwich, formerly of Wethersfield, peacefully passed away Wednesday, March 2, 2022 at home. Patrick was born in Hartford, June 3, 1970, one of two sons to Antoinette "Toni" (Grasso) O'Connor and the late Cornelius B. "Neil" O'Connor. Patrick was raised in Wethersfield and graduated from South Catholic High School, Class of 1988. He was employed at Uses Manufacturing Co. in Montville. Patrick was an outstanding golfer, playing for fun, as well as competing in and winning many tournaments. He enjoyed watching sports, and rooted for the New York Yankees and the San Francisco 49ers. His most comforting time was that spent on the beach, where he would reflect and relax. Patrick loved his family with all of his heart. Along with his mother Toni, he will be deeply missed and forever remembered by his two adored daughters, Kaylee and Erica O'Connor, both of Bristol; his brother John J. O'Connor; his "Ex-Wife" Dena O'Connor of Bristol and his special companion, Melissa Fuschi of Wethersfield. In addition, he leaves his bestie and roommate, Phillip Saunders of Norwich and his cherished four-legged son, Rocky. In addition to his father, Patrick was also predeceased by his beloved daughter, Isabella. Patrick's family will receive friends and relatives on Wednesday, March 9, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the D'Esopo Funeral Chapel, 277 Folly Brook Boulevard, Wethersfield. A Prayer Service will be held at 1 p.m. at the conclusion of the visitation. Interment will follow in Cedar Hill Cemetery, Hartford. The family requests that all attendees kindly wear masks. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations are suggested to MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) or MOD (March of Dimes). To share a memory of Patrick with his family, please visit www.desopofuneralchapel.com.



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OBITUARIES

Halm, Sandra L (Barton)

Sandra Halm died of natural causes March 1, 2022 at her home in Vernon, CT, where she had lived the past 40 years. Born Sandra Louise Barton on July 3, 1943 to Paul and Geraldine (Blood) Barton. Sandra was Baptized at the Congregational Church in Windsor Locks, CT June 11, 1944. She lived a quiet life at her Vernon home, usually with at least one cat. She had a passion for cooking and baking and often shared her treats with family or friends. Her love of the dogs her family members brought to visit was evident by the many pictures in her home, and the smile they brought to her face. Sandy had four children; Theresa Williams, Charles Williams, Andy Cartwright, and Kim Cartwright. Sadly, Theresa predeceased her in 2015. Sandy also had 4 grandchildren; Jesse Williams, Bryan Harvey, Rachelle Richmond, and Robbie Brumbelow. Sadly, again, Jesse predeceased her in 2007. Sandy also had four brothers, Doug Barton, Steve Barton, Michael Barton and Richard Barton, as well as numerous cousins, nephews, and great grandchildren. A Memorial Service will be held Sunday, March 12, 2:00 PM at the Immanuel Congregational Church, 10 Woodland Street, in Hartford.

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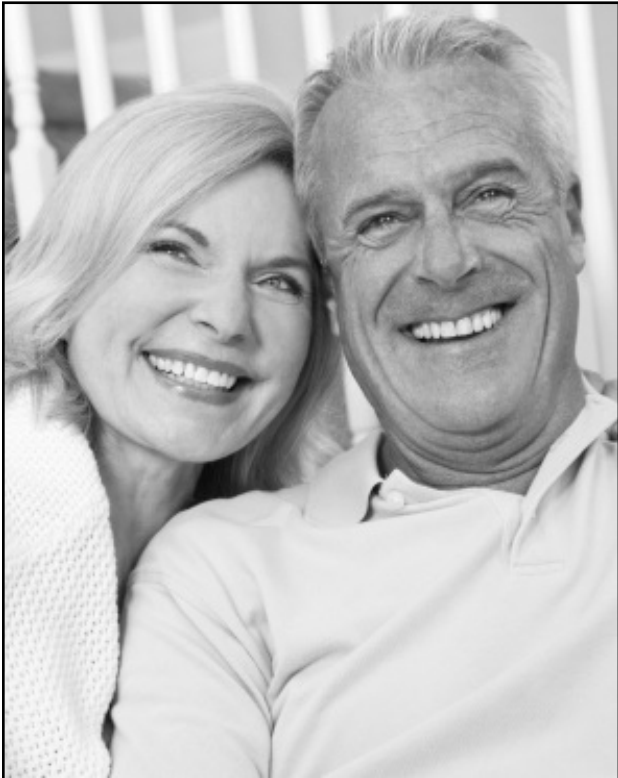
Presutti, Egidia "Ginny" (Zaino)



Egidia "Ginny" Ascenzina (Zaino) Presutti, 92, of Newington, CT passed away peacefully on March 3, 2022, surrounded by her four children. Ginny was born on May 26, 1929 in Hartford, CT. Her parents Gioacchino and Agata (Santoro) Zaino, who predeceased her, had only recently arrived in the United States from Popoli, Abruzzo, Italy when Ginny was born. Ginny grew up in Connecticut with her sister and best friend Anita Maulucci, who predeceased her. After graduating from Hall High School in West Hartford, Ginny worked for Aetna until she met and fell in love with her husband, the late Louis Anthony Presutti, Sr. They settled in Newington and had a happy life raising their four children. They had many family vacations on Cape Cod and enjoyed a good game of Password. After raising her family, Ginny worked for many years at the Newington Children's Hospital and at Orion Capital Company in the law library. After retirement, Ginny enjoyed trips to Florida with her sister. Ginny and Anita will be remembered for their elaborate Christmas Eve tradition of preparing the seven fishes. Ginny loved to spend time with and brag that she had eleven grandchildren and four great grandchildren. She was a long-time parishioner of St. Mary Church in Newington. Ginny leaves behind her children: Salvatore Presutti of Newington, CT; Louis Presutti, Jr. and his wife Anne of Glastonbury, CT; Jacqueline MacNeill and her husband Paul of Newington, CT and Donna Randall and her husband Darren of Unionville, CT; grandchildren: David and Gregory Presutti and Greg's wife Jenny; Michele (Presutti) Pepin and her husband Mark, Mary Ann (Presutti) Allison and her husband Ryan; Douglas, Kevin, Joseph and Maria MacNeill; and Hollie, Kerry Ann and Eve Randall; great grandchildren: George Pepin; Cody and Andrew Presutti and Quinn Allison; her sister-in-law, Sharon Presutti and many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews. Ginny was also predeceased by her sisters and brothers-in-law: Michael Maulucci, Sr.; Bambina and John Petrella; Viola and John Pizzoferrato; Aldo Presutti; and her grandson, Paul MacNeill, Jr. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated by her grandson Reverend Joseph MacNeill on Thursday, March 10, 2022 at 11 a.m. at St. Mary Church, 626 Willard Avenue, Newington, CT. Burial will follow at Fairview Cemetery, West Hartford. Calling hours will be held on Wednesday, March 9, 2022 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Sheehan-Hilborn-Breen Funeral Home, 1084 New Britain Avenue, West Hartford, CT. Please visit the Funeral Home website at www.SheehanHilbornBreen.com for the Livestream Funeral Mass (see Photos/Videos section) or to leave online condolences.

Sheehan Hilborn Breen
FUNERAL HOME

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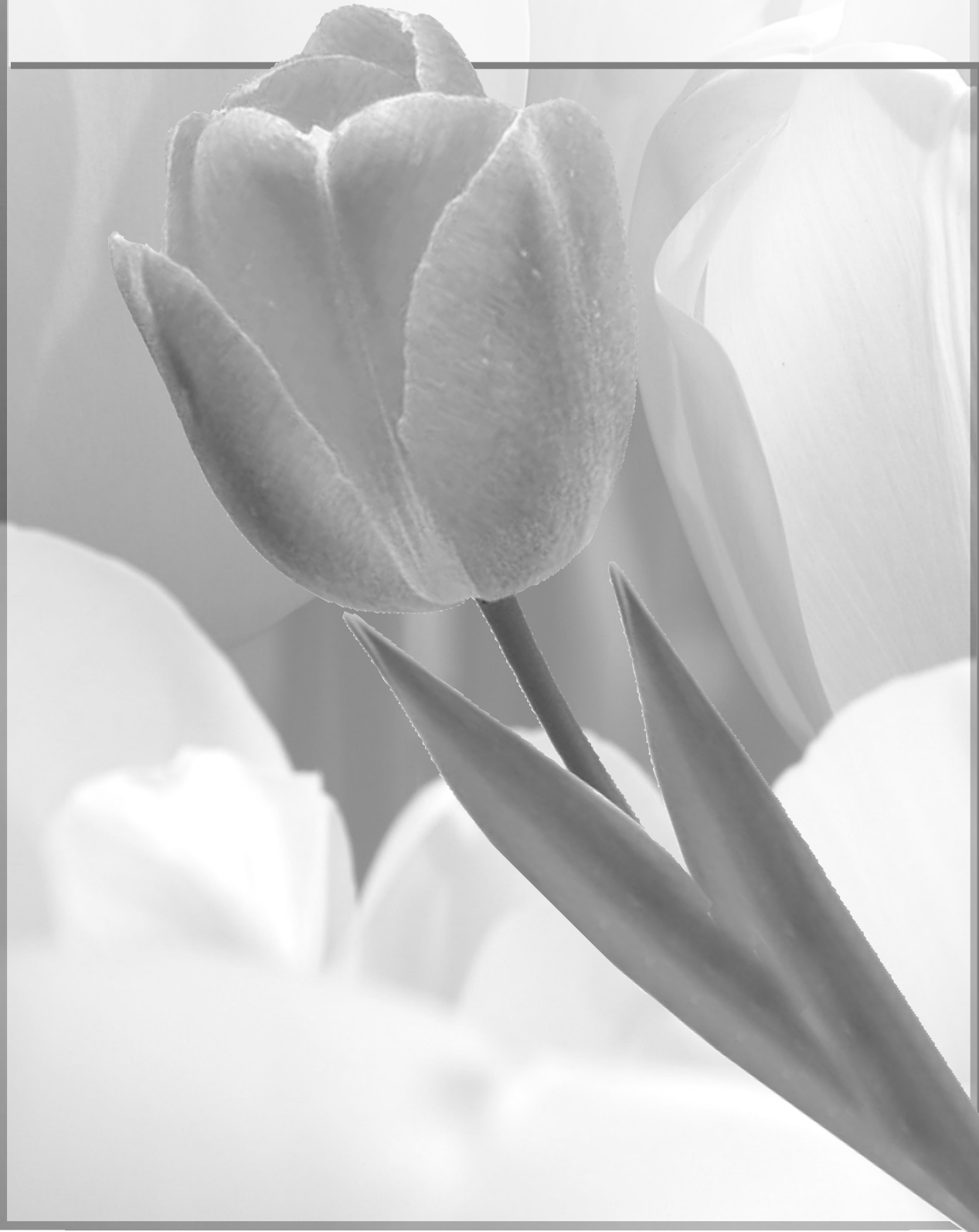


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 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS	 MARINES 2	 LIONS CLUB	 METHODIST CHURCH	 ORTHODOX COMBINED CROSS	 PRAYER HAND
 ORTHODOX RUSSIAN CROSS	 STAR OF DAVID	 FOOTBALL	 POLICE BADGE	 CORE CORE ORGAN DONOR	 SHAMROCK
 MASONIC	 ANGEL	 BALLOONS	 BASEBALL	 BASKETBALL	 BUTTERFLY
 CHECKERED FLAG	 DOVE	 MOTORCYCLE	 ROTARY	 MUSIC NOTE	 HEART BLANK
				 TEDDY BEAR	

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The price of gas was well past \$4 a gallon Monday in Manchester, echoing a nationwide trend. COURANT STAFF PHOTO

As oil prices soar, state warns of price gouging

Connecticut crosses \$4 threshold amid Russian assault on Ukraine

By Stephen Singer
Hartford Courant

Connecticut Attorney General William Tong warned motorists Monday to be aware of price gouging as gasoline prices surge following Russia's attack on Ukraine nearly two weeks ago. An "abnormal market disruption" in gasoline prices will trigger additional consumer protections against price gouging through April 2, he said.

During an abnormal market disruption, it is illegal to charge an "unconscionably excessive price" for energy resources that include gasoline, electricity and home heating oil. Such a price is charged in a "gross disparity" between the price during the market disruption and in the ordinary course of business immediately before the market disruption and the price is not due to additional costs, Tong said. State law requires the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection to monitor the wholesale price of gasoline in the Hartford and New Haven areas. When the wholesale price of gasoline is over \$3 a gallon and the daily price

change is over 15% when compared with any of the last 90 days, DEEP is required to notify the attorney general and Department of Consumer Protection of an "abnormal market disruption." The DEEP reported on March 2 that the wholesale price of gasoline monitored in the New Haven area was \$3.06, 36.6% more than the \$2.24 wholesale price of gas as of Dec. 3, 2021. The price has since passed the \$4 mark in Connecticut. The price reached \$4.06 a gallon on average in the U.S., a first since July 2008, according to the AAA.

Turn to Gouging, Page 2

Advocates hail Medicaid for new mothers

Extension of postpartum health coverage will take effect in April

By Harriet Jones
Conn. Health I-Team

Dr. Veronica Maria Pimentel, who specializes in obstetrics and gynecology at St. Francis Hospital in Hartford, recalls a patient who suffered a stroke soon after delivering her baby prematurely. The woman's Medicaid eligibility ended just two months after she gave birth, despite the complications caused by her stroke and the baby's premature birth. Although the woman's medical coverage ended, Pimentel said, her needs didn't. "She still needs physical therapy. She still needs occupational therapy. She still needs to be prepared for the rest of her life so she can care for her pre-term baby and herself," Pimentel said. Experiences like the new mother's made Pimentel determined to advocate for changes to Medicaid coverage for women in Connecticut. Those changes will take effect April 1. Pimentel testified before lawmakers last year as the General Assembly considered a bill that would address the coverage gap. The measure was included in the biennial state budget and will take effect April 1, extending postpartum Medicaid coverage to one year. Currently, women whose labor and delivery are covered by Medicaid, but who do not qualify for full Medicaid coverage, are entitled to 60 days of postpartum care. The extension means that women in a family of three earning between \$37,000 and \$60,000 will become eligible for a full year of postpartum coverage. The federal government estimates that represents about 4,000 women in Connecticut each year. Money to fund the Medicaid extension

Turn to Medicaid, Page 2



Gov. Ned Lamont's office has proposed bills designed to reduce the cost of health care and divert more spending to primary care, but some health care advocates are concerned that the measures will harm access to necessary treatment. COURANT FILE PHOTO

Lamont's health care proposals draw criticism

Opponents say bills would limit access to treatment

By Ginny Monk
CT Mirror

A set of bills designed to reduce the cost of health care and divert more spending to primary care has spurred opposition from advocates who say the measures will harm access to necessary treatment, particularly for people with disabilities. House Bill 5042 gives the Office of Health Strategy the power to set annual benchmarks for health care costs. If costs rise above those benchmarks, the state would talk with providers and insurers about what's driving the increase. Those meetings wouldn't be public, said Vicki Veltri, the office's

executive director. "There's no enforcement mechanism," said Sen. Matthew Lesser, co-chair of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee. "It's just a shame." The tactic has been used in a few other states, including Massachusetts, Delaware and Rhode Island, although typically the conversations are held in a public forum. It's useful for understanding what is causing the cost increases and gathering data on health care spending to inform policy decisions, said Maureen Hensley-Quinn, senior program director at the National Academy for State Health Policy. Senate Bill 15 aims to encourage increased use of primary and preventative care services by requiring insurance companies to offer "a form of the

Turn to Lamont, Page 2

Police make case for plate readers

Glastonbury residents can sound off in public hearing

By Don Stacom
Hartford Courant

Glastonbury residents get their chance Tuesday evening to speak for or against the police department's proposal to put automated license plate scanners around town. Police Chief Marshall Porter wants to install automated cameras at 13 intersections to record passing vehicles. Police contend they would be a benefit to officers searching for missing or abducted people, looking for stolen vehicles or trying to apprehend fugitives. "They are integral in helping police solve crime, and they save valuable personnel hours," Porter said in a memo last week to Town Manager Richard Johnson. But nationally, civil rights organizations have raised privacy and other objections to automated license plate readers. David McGuire, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Connecticut, said those same concerns exist in Connecticut. "License plate readers are problematic from a privacy perspective. They're giving police more access to data that doesn't result in safer communities," McGuire said Monday.

Glastonbury's town council will hold a hearing Tuesday evening from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Residents can give their opinions on whether Glastonbury should pursue the idea. The meeting will be on Zoom; details for viewing or speaking at the meeting are at tinyurl.com/wmeru87j. Police in Hartford, New Britain and elsewhere have had license plate readers mounted on some of their patrol cars for more than 10 years. As an officer cruises through parking lots or alongside a row of parked vehicles, the cameras scan nearby cars. If the system detects a wanted vehicle, the officer gets an immediate notification. Glastonbury's plan is to hire a contractor whose technology enables police to flag specific license plates or vehicle makes, models and colors; when that car or truck passes a fixed camera, police dispatchers will be notified automatically. Stationary readers are less common in Connecticut than cruiser-mounted units, but have been put up in the past two years in various Indiana, Michigan, Colorado, Tennessee and Illinois communities. Questions about privacy and data retention usually become part of the debate

Turn to Readers, Page 2

Enfield girl, 14, dies after being hit by pickup truck

Police say Ellington driver was texting and driving

By Christine Dempsey
Hartford Courant

A 14-year-old Enfield girl is dead and an Ellington driver is in police custody after the man — who police said was texting while driving — struck the teen in East Windsor Sunday. Jesse Robert Pincince, 37, was in custody early Monday on \$350,000 bail after his arrest on more than a half-dozen charges, including second-degree manslaughter, misconduct with a motor vehicle and negligent homicide with a motor vehicle, Lt. Matt Carl said. Later, during his arraignment in Superior Court in Hartford, his bail was reduced to \$200,000, a court clerk said. Neither police nor school officials had released the girl's name by early Monday afternoon but said she was a student at Enfield High School. Christopher Drezek, superintendent of schools, said the girl was a freshman. A crisis team was at the school to provide counseling when fellow students arrived at 7 a.m. and "they'll remain there for as long as students need them." Police said Pincince stopped at the scene of the collision and admitted he had been texting at the time. In addition, it appeared that he shouldn't have been driving because of a chronic medical condition, Lt. Matt Carl said. He didn't have details about the illness or any medication the driver might be on. According to police, 911 callers alerted

Turn to Freshman, Page 2

Suspects, car sought after armed robbery in Ellington

By Christine Dempsey
Hartford Courant

State police say they are looking for three armed robbers and a car with black wheel rims after a weekend holdup at an Ellington convenience store.

There were no reports of injuries during the robbery at the Valero gas station, 1 Main St., about 8:30 p.m. Saturday. Two male robbers came into the store while one waited outside near a silver or gray four-door car, possibly an Infiniti, with distinctive black wheel rims instead of the traditional chrome ones, state police say.

The robbers in the store held the clerk at gunpoint while demanding money, police say. Both of the robbers who came into the store

were wearing tan jackets and blue jeans. One was wearing a hood, a black neck gator, a gray knit cap with a white hood over it, and possibly eyeglasses, state police say. He was about 5 foot 8 and 200 pounds.

The second robber was wearing a green hooded sweatshirt under his jacket and tan work boots, police say. He was about 5 foot 10 and 180 pounds. Police don't have a description of the third person.

Anyone with information about the robbers or the car is asked to contact Det. Christopher Sackett at the Eastern District Major Crime Squad at the Troop C barracks in Tolland at 860-896-3272 or Christopher.sackett@ct.gov.

Christine Dempsey may be reached at cdempsey@courant.com.

Gouging

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Connecticut crossed the \$4 threshold on Saturday, settling Monday at \$4.28, an increase of 7 cents overnight, up 56 cents in the last week and 71 cents in the last month, AAA said. The price Monday is \$1.49 higher than a year ago but is 11 cents short of the previous record high of \$4.39 on July 9, 2008.

The global supply chain is still recovering from the pandemic and continued driver shortages. It's now been affected by the Russian invasion of Ukraine that could likely add to surging costs, prolonged deliveries and other challenges, AAA said.

DEEP has notified the attorney general's office of an abnormal market disruption that triggers additional consumer protections, Tong said. Overcharging consumers is unacceptable at any time and is illegal during an abnormal market disruption, he said.

"While consumers can expect gas prices to fluctuate more than usual at this time, any unconsciously high increase could be a sign of price gouging, which is illegal," said Consumer Protection Commissioner

Michelle H. Seagull.

Acting in coordination with the Department of Consumer Protection, the Office of the Attorney General may file suit against price gougers and seek appropriate relief, including injunctive terms, restraining orders, restitution and civil financial penalties.

"Gas prices fluctuate constantly, and price changes and price increases are normal," Tong said in a news release. "But what we have seen this past week is not typical, and we can expect even more volatility due to the unprovoked and unconscionable Russian invasion of Ukraine."

Russia is a major energy exporter and its invasion of neighboring Ukraine rattled global markets. Oil surged overnight to \$130 a barrel, the highest in 13 years, but later fell to \$116.

Anyone who suspects price gouging should file a complaint with the attorney general at <https://www.dir.ct.gov/ag/complaint/>. If consumers are unable to file a complaint online or via email, they can call the attorney general's office at 860-808-5318.

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Freshman

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state troopers to an erratic driver of a GMC pickup truck on I-91 about 3 p.m. Sunday. The male driver got off the highway in East Windsor, and a woman driving behind him made a similar complaint. She said she was stopped at a red light at the intersection of routes 5 and 140, and that the erratic driver had gone through the light.

When the light turned green, the woman proceeded east on Route 140 and came upon the scene of the collision, police said.

The teenager had been walking on the side of the road with another girl, who is 12; there is no sidewalk there. The younger girl was not struck by the pickup, police said.

Carl said Pincince cooperated with officers

and admitted he had been texting at the time of the collision.

A drug recognition expert from South Windsor said it appeared Pincince shouldn't have been driving because of his medical condition, he said. There was no evidence he was driving drunk.

Besides manslaughter, misconduct and negligent homicide, Pincince was charged with a traffic signal violation, operating a motor vehicle while using an electronic device, reckless driving and failure to maintain lane.

The teen was taken to Connecticut Children's, where she died about 8 p.m., Carl said. He said Monday morning that police have not released her name at the family's request.

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Medicaid

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program for five years is included in the federal American Rescue Plan Act.

Prenatal coverage for undocumented women under the state's Children's Health Insurance Program will also be expanded. Previously, undocumented women were ineligible because of their immigration status.

"I did my residency in Boston, where there was coverage for all pregnant people," Pimentel said. "And then coming from Massachusetts, with that sort of universal coverage, and going to Connecticut, you notice that there is a difference."

"The eligibility rules for the new CHIP program will be in the same systems as the rest of our medical programs, and all of these folks will start through the Access Health CT 'door,' like the vast majority of HUSKY Health recipients," said David Dearborn, a spokesperson for the state Department of Social Services.

More changes are scheduled for next year, Dearborn said.

For example, medical coverage for undocumented immigrant children up to the age of 8 will go into effect Jan. 1, 2023, and postpartum care for undocumented immigrant women will follow in April of 2023.

Amy D. Gagliardi, director of the maternal and infant program for Community Health Center Inc., said data supports the need for extended coverage. Gagliardi is co-chair of the women and children's health committee of the state's Medical Assistance Program Oversight Council, which recommended the postpartum extension.

She said some of the most dangerous pregnancy-related complications—preeclampsia, blood clots and heart problems such as cardiomyopathy—may not surface until weeks or months after delivery.

"The biggest reason women die nationally is cardiovascular disease," Gagliardi said. "I think the average is over 5½ months after birth," Gagliardi said.

"There's a lot of chronic diseases that present during pregnancy," she said. "Women may have a predisposition to diabetes, but it will develop in pregnancy. She may have an existing diabetes or an existing hypertension, but it exacerbates during pregnancy."

While chronic disease presents a threat, pregnancy-related deaths are relatively rare. In a 2021 report by the Connecticut Maternal Mortality Committee that reviewed state data from 2015 to 2019, there were 25 pregnancy-related deaths. Significantly, according to the report, 48% of pregnancy-related deaths occurred late postpartum, between 43 and 365 days after the end of the pregnancy.

The extension of postpartum Medicaid coverage will also help address racial inequities in maternal health. According to the Connecticut report, Black women

accounted for 13% of live births from 2015 to 2019 but 20% of pregnancy-related deaths. Women of all races who were covered by Medicaid accounted for 37% of live births but 60% of pregnancy-related deaths from 2015 to 2019.

Infants born on Medicaid are guaranteed coverage through the first year of life. Advocates say aligning the mother's coverage is also important to ensure compliance with well-child visits.

"That first year is critically important," said Tiffany Donelson, president and CEO of the Connecticut Health Foundation. "Having coverage means that a woman has access to get treatment for a variety of things like postpartum depression, and that also impacts an infant's health and well-being and development."

Pimentel is glad she and her colleagues will no longer have to attempt to squeeze treatments for a new mother into the two-month Medicaid eligibility window. "That gives us a lot more leeway trying to figure out how to help our patients take care of themselves."

Donelson cautions that the Medicaid changes are only a piece of the puzzle when addressing racial inequities in maternal health outcomes.

National figures from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) show that Black women are more than three times as likely to die from a pregnancy-related cause than white women, and the inequity cuts across socio-economic lines.

A 2020 study by the CDC's National Center for Health Statistics found that maternal mortality in the U.S. increased from 20.1 deaths per 100,000 live births in 2019 to 23.8 in 2020, with mothers of color accounting for the increase. Maternal deaths among Black women rose from 44 deaths per 100,000 live births in 2019 to 55 in 2020. One-third of the pregnant women and new mothers who died in 2020 were Black.

"There is a huge disparity that we need to address within child-maternal health," Donelson said.

The CDC's recommendations to reduce Black maternal mortality rates call on hospitals and health systems to address unconscious bias and standardize the coordination of care.

"This is one of the steps in really trying to address the inequities in maternal health outcomes," Donelson said of the Medicaid changes, "and there's more that still needs to be done."

Pimentel said another benefit to the Medicaid coverage extension is establishing a relationship of trust with medical providers.

"Trust is super important. If a patient has found somebody that they trust, they're more likely to go to their visits," she said. "When patients know the provider's name, they feel more satisfied with their care."

This story was reported under a partnership with the Conn. Health I-Team (c-hit.org), a non-profit news organization dedicated to health reporting.

Readers

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anywhere the cameras — known as LPRs — are considered, and Porter's memo addressed that.

"The Glastonbury Police Department takes privacy concerns seriously. The LPRs do not collect personal identifying information. Only a photo of the registration, vehicle, date, time and location will be collected," he wrote.

So drivers would not have to worry about their faces being photographed, or about the privacy of anyone else riding with them, police said.

But McGuire said LPRs are part of a "surveillance on steroids" trend that has been providing too much expensive technology to police agencies without adequate

oversight.

McGuire did not address the Glastonbury proposal itself, but said that overall such cameras are intrusive.

"There is no significant public safety benefit. Doubling down to create a permanent, expensive surveillance network is a very bad idea," he said. "And we've seen some municipalities use them as border protection."

In northern California, the ACLU complained that U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents got access to a massive database of drivers locations and used it for their deportation efforts. The database was maintained by the contractor providing automated license plate readers to municipalities.

In Tennessee and elsewhere, opponents warn that police reliance on more automated systems can increase the chance for

errors where innocent drivers are stopped because the cameras — or police database — inaccurately list their vehicles as stolen or wanted.

Privacy advocates nationally also are concerned about the risk of police potentially keeping years' worth of records showing where citizens' cars are driven every day.

Maine passed a state law requiring police to purge the data after 21 days; Georgia allows them to keep it for as long as 30 months.

"Data will only be retained for 30 days (unless required for an active investigation), after which it will be deleted," Porter wrote.

He also assured that Glastonbury's contractor wouldn't get access to photographs or license information of vehicles, and that his department won't share its

data with immigration agencies.

The system would cost about \$38,000 in the first year as it's phased in, Johnson said. It would be closer to \$45,000 if Glastonbury chooses to build it out to cover all 13 intersections that Porter is recommending, Johnson said.

Details about where the cameras would be located will be addressed at the hearing, Johnson said.

Police said the cameras can be helpful in deterring car thefts, which hit record numbers in 2020 in Glastonbury before dropping closer to normal last year.

"Experience has shown that those committing motor vehicle thefts and related crimes enter town in stolen motor vehicles," he wrote. "Officers will be quickly alerted to stolen motor vehicles if they are on the hot list."

Lamont

from Page 1

Health Enhancement Program" that's available to state employees. The state's program requires preventative exams on a scheduled basis, based on age.

Those plans would need to be in place by Jan. 1, 2024.

Both bills were proposed by Gov. Ned Lamont's office.

"Life is busy, and America's health care system is often hard to navigate," said Jonny Dach, policy director for Lamont, in a written statement supporting the bill. "As a result, too many of us put off lifesaving preventive services."

It also puts requirements in place for insurers to put contact information for primary care services or establish a hotline with more information about those services on insurance cards.

If passed, the bills would make permanent a two-year-old executive order that gave the Office of Healthcare Strategy the power to set annual benchmarks for health care spending and to monitor spending growth, among other measures.

Opponents argue that, taken together, the proposed legislation would limit access to specialty care including behavioral health, dental care and in-home providers.

"Taken together, these bills will likely harm access to health care for all patients, but particularly people with disabilities, elderly individuals and Black and brown people who already suffer health disparities," said Sheldon Toubman, a litigation attorney with Disability Rights Connecticut, in written testimony.

If the House bill limits overall health care costs, and the Senate bill succeeds at increasing primary care spending from 5% of total spending to 10% by 2025, there will be fewer resources to go around for other

types of care, advocates said at a public hearing last week before the Insurance and Real Estate Committee.

The state has developed a plan to monitor for negative impacts, Veltri said. That plan acknowledges that there could be unintended adverse impacts, including "providers inappropriately reducing access to health care services, especially for marginalized populations, and insurers transferring costs to consumers to suppress utilization and spending."

"There's things like that that can be done all over the place," Veltri said. "No state has seen a negative impact on access to care and service utilization as a result of a benchmark."

Some of the measures to monitor care include child and adolescent well-care visits, prenatal and postpartum care and breast cancer screenings.

Proper preventative and primary care can reduce the need for other services such as emergency room services, Dr. Deidre Gifford, Department of Social Services commissioner, said in an interview.

Other ways to cut down on overall costs without sacrificing services include using outpatient procedures where possible rather than inpatient, Veltri said.

The governor's focus with the House bill is on reducing rising health care costs, and there's no evidence that it will come at the expense of care, Lamont spokesman Max Reiss said in an email.

"The governor understands the importance of dental care, at-home health care and behavioral health — as well as other specialty services — especially for those with chronic and complex conditions," Reiss wrote.

Several states are looking at ways to invest in primary care.

Often, overall spending on other types of health care far outweighs spending on primary care, said Hensley-Quinn of the

National Academy for State Health Policy.

"I don't think by focusing on primary care you're necessarily not focused on other care," she said. "I think you have to start someplace, and other states are starting in a similar place."

Advocates also fear that a line in the House bill putting the Office of Health Strategies in charge of "developing, innovating, directing and overseeing health care delivery and payment models" means the state will push a capitation system of payment in Connecticut. Under a capitation system, providers get paid per patient rather than per procedure.

Reiss said the bill doesn't authorize that system.

"Under this bill, OHS does not have the authority to require payers — either commercial or Medicaid — to implement, modify or otherwise institute any type of payment system," Reiss said.

But advocates are worried about what will happen in the long term.

A capitation system can incentivize providers to see patients less often, said Ellen Andrews, executive director of the Connecticut Health Policy Project.

"They [the state] claimed that they're going to watch the underservice, but it's just a handful of measures that they were going to look at," Andrews said, adding that the state should monitor more measures to ensure people are getting the care they need.

A steering committee established by the Office of Health Strategy has drafted a plan for strengthening primary care that includes parameters for a capitation system.

Alternative payment methods are optional for providers and insurers, and the Office of Health Strategies won't mandate participation. Rather, it will oversee the process of developing alternative payment methods for those who want support,

Veltri said.

"The work we do is really collaborative work that people want to undertake together to align systems," she said.

Critics say capitation systems incentivize physicians to take on larger workloads and provide fewer services to patients, often opting to refer patients to specialty services they might not need.

But proponents of such a system say it prevents overbilling and cuts down on bookkeeping costs for doctors who can then offer more services to patients with the additional cash.

This could give providers room to hire more specialty staff such as a nutritionist or community health worker so patients can get more needs met in their primary care physician's office, Veltri said.

The state has been pushing for such a system for years, Toubman said.

"You can save money from capitation; you are paying out less money than you were before, but at what price?" Toubman said.

Veltri said her office offers options and information on payment but doesn't have the authority to mandate those options.

Lesser said he thought the concerns of advocates were focused further down the road and that the bills should be considered on their own merits.

"The last thing I would want to do is cut back on needed, necessary care," Lesser said. "Let's have a conversation about what's in the bills now."

Still, advocates are wary.

"It's just all sorts of 'Trust us,' and that's not good enough. That's just not good enough," Andrews said.

Ginny Monk is a reporter for The Connecticut Mirror (<https://ctmirror.org/>). Copy-right 2022 © The Connecticut Mirror.

State won't honor Diamantis' funding promises

Farmington, Hartford schools lose out amid investigation

By **Andrew Brown**
CT Mirror

Connecticut officials have notified at least two municipalities that the state will not honor financial promises made by Konstantinos Diamantis, who is now at the center of a federal criminal investigation.

Over the past three months, local officials in Farmington and Hartford received letters from the state's Office of School Construction Grants and Review informing them that the anticipated reimbursement rates for planned school projects were out of line with state rules.

The decisions have created turmoil in the towns and forced them to reassess how they will pay for millions of dollars in building costs they had expected the state to cover, and legislators are looking for a political fix.

Diamantis, who ran the school grants program for more than six years and served as deputy secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, was removed from his government positions on Oct. 29, 2021 — around the same time that the state was subpoenaed by a federal grand jury.

Since then, Gov. Ned Lamont has appointed new people to oversee the state's school building program and instructed them to review dozens of school construction projects, toward which the state has contributed hundreds of millions of dollars.

As part of that ongoing review, the state sent letters to local officials in Farmington and Hartford, informing the municipalities that the state will not follow through on financial commitments made by Diamantis.

In both cases, the state told local officials that Diamantis had incorrectly calculated how much money the state would cover for the construction of school administrative offices.

Noel Petra, who was placed in charge of the school grant program following Diamantis' exit, also explained that state law prohibited the office from setting a higher reimbursement rate for those projects.

"The Office of School Construction Grants and Review recognizes that the district

was previously given different information regarding a higher reimbursement rate for the Board of Education offices," Petra wrote to town officials in Farmington. "Unfortunately, that information was contrary to statute, and therefore we are not able to justify using it."

The state's decision to backtrack on past funding pledges could be extremely costly for the local governments that are affected.

The state's decision to cut the reimbursement rate for part of the Farmington High School project could cost that town \$915,000 that it didn't budget.

And in Hartford, city officials may need to come up with an additional \$16 million the state promised to cover as part of the Bulkeley High School project.

Lora Rae Anderson, a spokeswoman for the Department of Administrative Services, which oversees the school grant program, said Farmington and Hartford are the only municipalities to receive formal letters adjusting the reimbursement rates.

But she said the state also clarified the reimbursement rules for other municipalities that were just getting started with their procurement process for school projects.

Lamont and a group of high-ranking state officials held a press conference last week to emphasize the reforms they are making to the school construction grants and to highlight their attempts to instill public confidence in a program that remains the focus of an ongoing investigation.

"We have rebuilt the program already into a much more transparent and trustworthy program," Petra told the crowd of reporters who gathered in the Capitol.

"We've met with dozens of the school districts. We've met with dozens of legislators. We've met with all of the industry stakeholders," he added. "We have worked hand in hand with everyone to identify problems."

The decision to reduce the state grant funding in Farmington has already set off a political backlash in that town.

Farmington's board of education, the town council and the local school building committee all responded to the letter from the state by voicing shock and outrage.

Many of those officials said Diamantis made repeated promises in meetings that the state

would cover more than 28% of Farmington's new school administrative offices.

Yet town officials were informed in December that the state was only willing to pay for 14% of those costs.

"It's not only disappointing. In some respects, it's unacceptable, based on the conversations we had and the work we've done," Meg Guerrero, the chairwoman of the Farmington High School Building Committee, said during a public meeting in December. "I don't think I'm out of line in saying that. I'm sure we all probably feel that way at this moment."

Farmington's elected leaders said they relied on the reimbursement rates that Diamantis offered as part of their pitch to residents, who voted in a referendum to fund the new high school and related office space.

"We went out with numbers that were given to us by a representative of the state, and now we don't have those numbers," said Christine Arnold, the chairwoman of Farmington's Board of Education. "And it's not a little bit. It's a significant amount."

A similar situation has also played out in recent weeks in Hartford, where city officials could face an even larger funding shortfall.

In that case, Diamantis vowed that the state would cover 95% of the \$29.5 million for the administrative offices that are part of Hartford's Bulkeley High School renovation.

Yet the new leaders at the Office of School Construction Grants and Review said in a Feb. 22 letter that the state can only cover 40%, or about \$11.8 million, of the overall cost.

Howard Rifkin, Hartford's Corporation Counsel, sent a letter back to the state at the beginning of March pushing back against the state's decision to slash the reimbursement rate.

In that letter, Rifkin pointed out that Hartford received written confirmation from Diamantis about the promised reimbursement rate and approval for the overall cost of the new administrative offices.

"As you know, the city acted in reliance on the representation of the state official then-in-charge of school construction reimbursement, as memorialized in the attached commitment letter, that the project would be eligible for Hartford's full rate of reimbursement," Rifkin wrote.

"The written representation made in this regard by the state official responsible for overseeing the school construction program was incredibly significant," he added.

That's not the way the state views the situation, however.

In his letters, Petra emphasized that state law prohibits the Office of School Construction Grants and Review from unilaterally adjusting reimbursement rates, which are determined through a set funding formula that is developed by the Connecticut Legislature.

The only way around that, Petra noted, is for the legislature to pass a bill that adjusts the reimbursement rates for the projects that are now in question.

There is already mounting pressure on Farmington's legislative delegation to fix the financial problems.

The state senators and representatives for Farmington were recently questioned by the town council and the local board of education members about the state's decision to slash the reimbursement rate for part of the school project.

They promised to do what they could to make sure the town received the money it was promised.

"We hear you loud and clear. We are aware of it," state Rep. Mike Demicco, D-Farmington, told the town council. "What you were promised is what we will try to get for you."

State Sen. Derek Slap, D-Farmington, said he was confident he could get it done.

"We will go to the mat for Farmington," Slap told the school board. "We have a lot of different pressure points we can apply, and we will use them all."

Farmington's lawmakers are also likely to have a powerful ally on their side as they seek the legislature's help.

House Speaker Matt Ritter, D-Hartford, said he is aware of the cut to the school reimbursement rates and that Hartford's six representatives and two senators are interested in remedying the problem.

"We're going to look into it," Ritter said. "The Hartford delegation will work hard at it."

Andrew Brown is a reporter for The Connecticut Mirror (<https://ctmirror.org/>). Copyright 2022 © The Connecticut Mirror.

Bernhard talks pandemic and her upcoming Westport show

By **Christopher Arnott**
Hartford Courant

Until a few days ago, Sandra Bernhard had five events on her calendar over the next few weeks, including in Philadelphia, New York City and Washington D.C., marking a return to regular live performances for the celebrated comic, singer and provocateur.



Bernhard

Now — lucky us — her only scheduled live show is Saturday at 8 p.m. at the Westport Country Playhouse. The other bookings, including a virtual concert from Los Angeles, have had to be postponed because Bernhard has been hired for a new TV project. She can't offer any details about the new series, only that it's shooting in L.A. this month. Her previous TV roles range from HIV/AIDS nurse Judy Kubrak on "Pose" to Nancy Bartlett on "Roseanne" to Joedth on "Two Broke Girls" to the evocatively named Caroline Poop on "Ally McBeal."

"It's just been crazy," Bernhard told the Courant in a phone interview Friday. "I started to perform again, then omicron came. Everybody's going through the same thing."

Her live shows may be rare right now, but Sandra Bernhard's voice can still be heard every week on her award-winning SiriusXM show Sandyland (on the network's Radio Andy Channel 102).

What will your Westport show be like?

It's a small theater, which I love. I have been performing again with a band, but this is more scaled back, with just a piano player. I'm keeping it simple. I'm always writing new material. So much of this show is about the pandemic and life in general during the pandemic. Every week a new catastrophe unfolds. The songs weave in and out of that.

What songs are you doing?

What I usually do, like great rock songs. The music is always super eclectic. It's the same kind of songs I would do with a full band.

When did you first start blending music with comedy?

I always did a rudimentary version of what I'm known for now. Even at the Comedy Store [the legendary L.A. comedy club, in the 1980s] there was a piano player, so I could end my set with a song.

If you go

Sandra Bernhard performs March 12 at 8 p.m. at the Westport Country Playhouse, 25 Powers Court, Westport. Tickets are \$50-\$75. Proof of two doses of COVID-19 vaccine required, and masks must be worn at all times. For more information, go to westportplayhouse.org.

An article in Vanity Fair this month talks about Jerry Lewis abusing women. You worked with him on "The King of Comedy."

It doesn't surprise me. To me, he was just rude. He was a misogynist. He wasn't nice to me, but I just sat back and did what I was there to do. He wasn't a happy person, clearly not a contented human being.

Someone else you crossed paths with was Hugh Hefner.

My friend was a photography editor at Playboy, and we came up with this photo spread. It was a celebration of being audacious and feminist, subversive in its way. I didn't know Hugh Hefner. I met him at a party when that issue came out.

You were on "The Richard Pryor Show" (for two episodes, in 1977).

Pryor was one of my first TV appearances. He would come in to the Comedy Store and was so private and shy. I knew him through Paul Mooney. [Mooney, a major force in comedy himself, died last year.]

You appeared in "The Late Shift," the HBO movie about David Letterman and Jay Leno. Did you worry that the people it was about wouldn't like you being in it?

It didn't worry me. It was very effective the way they did it.

Can you give any other details about the Westport show?

People know what I do. It's just great to be there live. It's also a safe environment. Everyone will be masked. That's important to me. I have the vaccination and a booster, and I test myself constantly, because I respect not only myself but those around me. I take advantage of scientific breakthroughs. I don't know why other people don't. The country is full of morons.

Hopefully the morons won't be at your show.

They won't be.

Christopher Arnott can be reached at carnett@courant.com.



New Britain Mayor Erin Stewart said a pilot program to connect children who have experienced trauma with treatment options is focused on addressing juvenile crime rates. COURANT FILE PHOTO

New Britain pilot program aims to reduce child trauma

By **Jessica Bravo**
CT Mirror

New Britain State's Attorney Brian Preleski is launching a pilot program to connect children who have experienced trauma with treatment options, which Preleski described as a long-term effort to lower crime.

"There's not going to be a change tomorrow in what we see happening on the street," Preleski said. "What our hope is, is that five and 10 and 15 years down the road, we're going to see a change by sensitizing parents and adults in these kids' lives by following up with them and by connecting them to the services that they need to better cope with the trauma that they've experienced in their communities."

Preleski announced the initiative, known as The State's Attorney's Violence Eradication and Disruptive program, or SAVED, at a recent press conference.

SAVED is modeled after the Open Doors Program in Montgomery, Alabama, which was established in 2020. It will be piloted in New Britain and its surrounding cities during the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

The program is funded through the Division of Criminal Justice's existing budget, Preleski said. John Walker, a retired police officer and senior pastor of the St. James Missionary Baptist Church, will serve as the program's violence prevention interventionist.

Walker said he wants to provide a support system for the children and foster relationships with them.

"We need to impress upon them that they are loved," Walker said. "They matter. They are important. We have to pour into them now so that they'll know that they are necessary for our future."

Walker said he will visit schools and homes of children who may be affected by trauma to see if he can provide different resources, whether that be counseling or various other supports the program may offer. Walker said he is particularly interested in finding out which kids are frequently truant so he can gauge whether they are in need of SAVED services.

Preleski said just because a child isn't physically hurt during violence doesn't mean they won't be affected by it. For instance, he said, children who witness shootings can be emotionally impacted even if they escape physical harm.

"They've just witnessed an incredibly traumatic event. They have seen someone who probably they know, get shot. They may very well know the shooter, too," Preleski said.

New Britain Mayor Erin Stewart, who has been critical of the state's response to juvenile crime after a teen was charged in a fatal hit-and-run that took place in New Britain last year, said the program is focused on

addressing juvenile crime rates.

"You can't fix the problem of repeat juvenile offenders if you're not taking [care of] it right at the beginning, targeting these students and speaking with them on the problems that they face and talking to them about how to work through it," Stewart said. "This is about becoming a best version of themselves."

New Britain Police Chief Christopher Chute said the police department knows children and young adults are frequent witnesses to traumatic events.

"It's a daily basis that we're seeing this, and being able to intervene and really get ahead of some of these issues and give these kids and adolescents coping skills so that they don't fall down the wrong path," Chute said.

Bristol Police Chief Brian Gould said the goal of the program is to help vulnerable, at-risk children before they commit crimes and wind up in the justice system.

"We always say that if you're doing the same thing and not getting different results, we've got to do something different," Gould said. "And that's what this program is all about."

Gould said Connecticut should be doing all it can to help local children.

"One thing we all have in common here is we all have children in our communities. We have children ourselves. They're our investment. They're our future," Gould said.

Christina Quaranta, executive director of Connecticut Justice Alliance, said the effort speaks to prosecutors' broader goal to pursue justice, which does not always mean putting someone behind bars.

"Just because someone might not be on the defense side of an argument or viewed as being on your side, they're still trying to solve ... a root issue [as] to why young people might become involved in the youth or criminal legal system," Quaranta said.

Quaranta said she would like to see the program administrators define trauma broadly and understand there are many things that could be traumatic to a child. For instance, she said, children of color experience trauma just in the course of living their everyday lives.

When traumatized children grow up, they too are at risk of winding up in prison, said Quaranta.

"Probably the person who is a perpetrator was also a victim at some point," Quaranta said. "So I think if we could address everybody's trauma, and not pick and choose what we want to talk about, and what we want to look away from, that would be very important."

Jessica Bravo is a reporter for The Connecticut Mirror (<https://ctmirror.org/>). Copyright 2022 © The Connecticut Mirror.

Calif. lab to pay \$4.8M to settle claims it overbilled Conn. Medicaid program

By **Edmund H. Mahony**
Hartford Courant

A California lab has reached a settlement with the state and federal government in which it agrees to pay \$4.8 million to resolve allegations that it overcharged the Connecticut Medicaid program for some laboratory services.

Santa Rosa-based Redwood Toxicology Laboratory provides urine drug testing services for substance abuse patients enrolled in the Connecticut Medicaid program. The government claims the lab violated a Connecticut regulation, known as the "Most Favored Nation" regulation, which guarantees that labs bill the state at the lowest price they charge other third party clients for similar tests.

The state and federal government claimed that Redwood regularly accepted payments from Connecticut Medicaid for certain urine drug tests at the rate of \$38 per test, while at the same time charging other third parties

from \$2 to \$10.50 for the same or substantially similar urine drug tests.

Redwood agreed to resolve the allegation by paying about \$4.8 million to cover the period from January 2015 through and including February 2018.

"We are committed to ensuring that public funds used for substance abuse treatment are properly spent, and clinical laboratories that charge government health care programs a higher price than they charge to other providers for the same or similar services will be held accountable," U.S. Attorney Leonard Attorney C. Boyle said.

Connecticut Attorney General William Tong said, "The state Most Favored Nation regulation exists to ensure fair prices for our taxpayer funded Medicaid program. In coordination with our federal and state partners, we will act aggressively to ensure public funds are protected and well spent."

This matter was investigated by the Office of Inspector General for the Department of Health and Human Services.

Have You Been Injured?

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Attorney John H. Hagel, Jr.
860-225-3518

Attorney Hagel can be reached at
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Car Reviews

SATURDAYS IN Motoring



PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Elizabeth Nadeau (22-00172)

The Hon. Michael A. Carrier, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Berlin Probate Court, by decree dated March 3, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Susan I. Meagher, Chief Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Jean Louis Nadeau, 291 Linwood Street, New Britain, CT 06052

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Glenn W. Swent (22-00173)

The Hon. Michael A. Carrier, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Berlin Probate Court, by decree dated March 3, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Susan I. Meagher, Chief Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Patricia K. Swent, 277 Savage Hill Road, Berlin, CT 06037

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Harold Thomas Vinton, AKA Harold T. Vinton (22-00109)

The Hon. Michael A. Carrier, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Berlin Probate Court, by decree dated March 3, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Susan I. Meagher, Chief Clerk

The fiduciary is:
David P. Vinton, 70 Delahunty Drive, Southington, CT 06489

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Diane Fiske (22-00159)

The Hon. Michael A. Carrier, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Berlin Probate Court, by decree dated March 2, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Susan I. Meagher, Chief Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Laura Karoll, 393 Elton Road, Berlin, CT 06037
3/8/22 7162527

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Judith P. Lentz, Late of KILLINGWORTH (22-0099)

The Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Saybrook Probate Court, by decree dated February 23, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Helene Yates, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Thomas L. Lentz
c/o KRISTEN BROOKE PROUT, RWC LLC ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW, 330 SOUTH MAIN STREET, MIDDLETOWN, CT 06457

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Ann O. Buttrick, Late of NEW YORK (21-0654)

The Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Saybrook Probate Court, by decree dated February 24, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Helene Yates, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Sarah Elizabeth Buttrick
John Ward Buttrick
c/o ALFRED PITTMAN TIBBETTS, BUTLER TIBBETTS, LLC, 181 OLD POST ROAD, SOUTHPORT, CT 06890

Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at the location indicated:

50 Olesen Rd
Wethersfield CT 06109
860-266-3184
Auction Date: March 22, 2022 1:00 PM
4115 Monique Skyers House goods
8174 Qaher Salalah House goods
The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storageasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.
3/8, 3/15/2022 7158273

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Richard Lee Livingston, Late of Haddam, AKA Richard L. Livingston (22-0007)

The Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Saybrook Probate Court, by decree dated March 2, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Jacqueline Craco, Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Tory Reilly, 18 Spice Bush Lane, Branford, CT 06405

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Barbara K. Aubin, late of OLD SAYBROOK (22-0083)

The Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Saybrook Probate Court, by decree dated February 11, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Helene Yates, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Linda A. Wagner
c/o JONATHAN R AUBIN, KELLY MIRA LAW, 968 FARMINGTON AVE., SUITE 208, WEST HARTFORD, CT 06107

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Carol Marie Pelzer, late of HIGGANUM (22-0052)

The Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Saybrook Probate Court, by decree dated February 16, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Helene Yates, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Marc Carotenuto
Michelle Weems
c/o PHRANCES LEVERTON SZEWCZYK, LAW OFFICE OF PHRANCES I. SZEWCZYK, 100 RIVERVIEW CENTER, SUITE 130, MIDDLETOWN, CT 06457

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JULIE C. DAGLE, late of East Hampton AKA Julie Claudell Dagle (22-00006)

The Hon. Jennifer L. Berkenstock, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Region # 14 Probate Court, by decree dated February 22, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Monika L. Graham, Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Thomas J. Dagle, 15 Summit Street, East Hampton, CT 06424
3/8/22 7162638

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Ann O. Buttrick, Late of NEW YORK (21-0654)

The Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Saybrook Probate Court, by decree dated February 24, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Helene Yates, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Sarah Elizabeth Buttrick
John Ward Buttrick
c/o ALFRED PITTMAN TIBBETTS, BUTLER TIBBETTS, LLC, 181 OLD POST ROAD, SOUTHPORT, CT 06890
3/8/22 7162200

Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at the location indicated:

1156 Cromwell ave Rocky Hill 06067 860-227-2753
Auction Date: March 22nd 2022 1:00pm
184 Joseph J Perez Household goods
315 Patricia Elaine Bainer Household goods
355 Sonny Fongemie Household goods
537 Jared Zotta Household Goods
594 Megan Desorbo Household Goods
643 Lorenzo Padilla Household Goods
712 Laurel Burke Household Goods
814 Yao Zhu Household Goods
The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storageasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.
3/8, 3/15/2022 7162770

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF BARBARA MARIA HANCOCK, AKA Barbara W. Hancock, AKA Barbara W. Hancock (17-0373)

The Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Saybrook Probate Court, by decree dated February 18, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Jacqueline Craco, Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is:
William I. Hancock
c/o DAWN M PEARSON, PARKS & PEARSON, LLC, 765 EAST MAIN STREET, BRANFORD, CT 06405
3/8/22 7162519

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF ELIZABETH E. RUGGLES, late of East Hampton, AKA ELIZABETH ELLIOTT RUGGLES (21-00375)

The Hon. Jennifer L. Berkenstock, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Region # 14 Probate Court, by decree dated March 2, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Suzanne B. Emond, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
David N. Ruggles
c/o SIMON JOEL LEBOWITZ, BROWN, PAINDIRIS & SCOTT, 2252 MAIN STREET, GLASTONBURY, CT 06033
3/8/22 7162221

**State of Connecticut
Court of Probate, Central Connecticut
Regional Children's Probate Court
District**

NOTICE TO Antonio A. Cardenas Cardenas, whose last known residence is unknown to the Court. Pursuant to an order of Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Judge, a hearing will be held at Central Connecticut Regional Children's Probate Court, 1501 East Main Street, Suite 203, Meriden, CT 06450 on March 17, 2022 at 8:00 AM on a petition for Removal of Guardian of the Person concerning a certain minor child born on June 17, 2009. The court's decision will affect your interest, if any, as in the petition on file more fully appears.

RIGHT TO COUNSEL: If the above-named person wishes to have an attorney, but is unable to pay for one, the court will provide an attorney upon proof of inability to pay. Any such request should be made immediately by contacting the court office where the hearing is to be held.

By order of the court
Philip A. Wright, Jr., Administrative Judge
3/8/2022 7153813

Movie Reviews

FRIDAYS IN Living



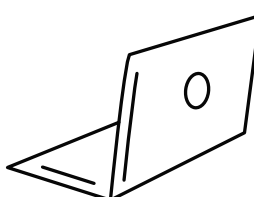


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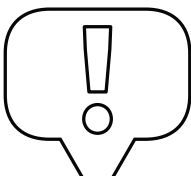
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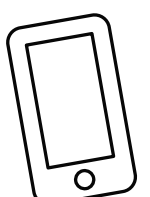
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Coster-Waldau's new film put him back in snow

'Game of Thrones' actor also co-wrote 'Against the Ice'

By Lindsey Bahr
Associated Press

Winter could have been over for Nikolaj Coster-Waldau when "Game of Thrones" ended in 2019, but the Danish star put himself back in the snow for his latest adventure, "Against the Ice."

The film, now streaming on Netflix, follows the wild saga of Denmark's Ejnar Mikkelsen, a captain, explorer and author who set out in 1909 to recover the maps and journals of a failed Arctic expedition a few years prior. At stake was a dispute over Northeast Greenland, which the U.S. had claimed and which the Dutch were attempting to invalidate by proving that Greenland was one island. Mikkelsen had only his sled dogs and one inexperienced mate at his side for the mission, which kept getting more complicated.

It's a project that has been with Coster-Waldau for almost a decade. Director Peter Flinth, a friend from school, sent him Mikkelsen's book "Two Against the Ice" to consider. Flinth had heard about it from the Queen of Denmark Margrethe II who had mentioned to Flinth that it might make a good movie. Coster-Waldau agreed and not only does he star in the film, but he also co-wrote the script with his longtime friend and collaborator Joe Derrick.

"It was a long journey. It was a complicated book to adapt," Coster-Waldau, 51, said in a recent interview. "I've always loved survival stories, explorers who go to unknown places. It's



Nikolaj Coster-Waldau, seen March 2 in New York, co-wrote the new film in which he also stars, "Against the Ice," about Ejnar Mikkelsen, an explorer who set out in 1909 to recover the maps and journals of a failed Arctic expedition. SCOTT GRIES/INVISION

exciting. But what really caught me here was it was an unusual combination. Normally both men would have had the same ambitions and hopes, but here one of them was a famous explorer, and the other was literally just a mechanic. This is what actually saves them, that they were so different."

They shot on location on glaciers mostly in Iceland, some in Greenland, and relied minimally on CGI. In casting Joe Cole as Mikkelsen's very green companion Iver Iversen, the filmmakers warned

the actor that the conditions would be harsh and comforts minimal. (There was a bus people could go to to get out of the elements for a bit, but no personal trailers on the glacier.)

At one point, Netflix sent back a note on footage they had seen worried that they were overdoing it with the snow and ice on his beard, not realizing that it was neither makeup nor effects — it was real. Funnily enough, Coster-Waldau said his fur period costumes proved warmer than the modern arctic gear that much of the crew was

wearing.

The film's debut is a full circle moment for Coster-Waldau and Flinth, who over 30 years ago brought one of their student short films to New York, hoping it might open the doors to Hollywood magically. They got a screening room somewhere on Broadway and some friends showed up. It was a fun night but not exactly a career changer. But it made the premiere of "Against the Ice" at the Paris Theater recently even more poignant for the longtime friends.

"The fact that Nikolaj and I kept working on this story for so long is proof that it had enough material and substance to make it into a great movie," Flinth said.

Friendship has been a theme of the whole project, both in the story itself and in the fact that Coster-Waldau and Derrick made their creative partnership official a few years ago, founding Ill Kippers Productions. It was actually seeing "Game of Thrones" showrunners David Benioff and D.B. Weiss work together that inspired him to start the

company.

"I was like, wow, imagine going to work every day with your best friend," he said.

"Game of Thrones" took up a lot of air in the culture when it was on, but Coster-Waldau has always been aware that there is life outside of Jaime Lannister. He started on the HBO show at age 41, after he was already a major star in his country and had had some big breaks and disappointments in Hollywood. It was on a trip where he found he'd lost out on the lead role in "John Carter" that he found out he'd booked a pilot about dragons. Though it might not have seemed like it at the time, it turned out to have been the best-case scenario.

"Game of Thrones" provided stability and renown and made him a household name in the U.S. But even during the eight-season run, he was always doing other projects. The only difference now is he doesn't have a few months of his year blocked off to go film in Belfast, and he has a little more time to write.

"I love acting. I love getting jobs as an actor," he said. "But what we're doing now is so much fun and so interesting, just to get in from the beginning of a story and help create it."

And next up he has a multipart Audible drama that Derrick wrote and he performs in debuting sometime in May. He describes it as an "old-school radio play." But first, he's enjoying the moment with "Against the Ice."

"There is just such a sense of accomplishment and pride in this movie, because it was not an easy one to make," he said. "Our ambitions were so high."

CELEBRITIES

'Lost Daughter' wins Spirits' top prizes

From news services

Maggie Gyllenhaal's "The Lost Daughter," "Drive My Car" and "Summer of Soul" were among the big winners at the 37th Film Independent Spirit Awards on Sunday.

The ceremony hosted by Nick Offerman and Megan Mullally was held in a tent by the beach in Santa Monica, California.

Gyllenhaal won best feature, director and best screenplay for her adaptation of the Elena Ferrante novel "The Lost Daughter."

Through tears, Gyllenhaal said that more than anything she believes in love. She was effusive in her praise for her crew. "You were the first people to tell me I was a director," she said. "Thank you to Netflix — I can't even believe this — for your support... Nobody ever makes their first movie and comes out loving their financiers."

To be considered for the Spirit Awards, films must have cost less than \$22.5 million to make.

Japan's "Drive My Car" picked up best international feature. "Summer of Soul," about the Harlem Cultural Festival of 1969, won best documentary.

Taylor Paige won best female lead for "Zola," which was based on a Twitter thread about a wild trip to Florida. Simon Rex won best male lead for playing an ex-porn star in Sean Baker's "Red Rocket."

Troy Kotsur won best supporting actor for his role in "CODA." Best supporting female went to Ruth Negga, for her turn in Rebecca Hall's "Passing."

"Squid Game's" Lee Jung-jae took home best male performance in a new scripted series.

UN envoy Jolie in Yemen: Hollywood actor Angelina Jolie on Sunday visited war-wrecked Yemen to show solidarity with



Maggie Gyllenhaal accepts the award for best director at the Spirit Awards on Sunday. JORDAN STRAUSS/INVISION

displaced families in hopes of mobilizing support for an upcoming fundraising conference, the United Nations said. Jolie, who is special envoy for the U.N. on refugee issues, landed in Aden to meet with families and refugees there.

The U.N. refugee agency said it hopes that Jolie's visit would draw attention to growing humanitarian needs in Yemen, the Arab World's poorest country, ahead of the annual High Level Pledging Conference for Yemen on March 16.

Actor Ryan dies: Mitchell Ryan, 88, who played a villainous general in the first "Lethal Weapon" movie, a ruthless businessman on TV's "Santa Barbara" and had character roles on the soap opera "Dark Shadows" and the 1990s sitcom "Dharma & Greg," died Friday. He died of congestive heart failure at his Los Angeles home, according to his stepdaughter, Denise Freed.

Ryan's career spanned more than a half-century in film and TV, beginning with an uncredited role in the 1958 Robert Mitchum film "Thunder Road."

'The Batman' exceeds expectations: "The Batman," starring Robert Pattinson, grossed \$128.5 million in North America in its opening weekend, according to studio estimates Sunday.

The latest relaunch of the comic book character is well above Warner Bros.' conservative estimates, which had the film pegged for a debut in the \$90 million range. It's the best opening of 2022 and the second best of the pandemic, though it's more than \$100 million shy of "Spider-Man: No Way Home's" \$260 million opening weekend in December. Internationally, "The Batman" earned \$120 million, bringing its global total to \$248.5 million.

March 8 birthdays: Saxophonist George Coleman is 87. Actor Micky Dolenz is 77. Bassist Randy Meisner is 76. Singer Peggy March is 74. Pianist Billy Childs is 65. Journalist Lester Holt is 63. Actor Camryn Manheim is 61. Actor Freddie Prinze Jr. is 46. Actor James Van Der Beek is 45. Singer Kameelah Williams is 44.



ASK AMY

By Amy Dickinson

askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter@askingamy

Mother wonders if boyfriend is too curious

Dear Amy: Should I have to tell my boyfriend every single place I go during the day? He'll get home and ask me how my day was and what I did during the day.

Sometimes I just want to go get out of the house. I'm a mother of two young boys. My oldest is in school, and I'm at home with my youngest.

I get the whole "respect" thing. I'm very respectful to my boyfriend. I love him very much.

I can see that if I was going to places that were inappropriate, this could get me into trouble with him, but I'm not. Sometimes I'll just take my youngest to the Goodwill, or up the street to visit my parents' house.

My boyfriend tells me he feels that I lie to him because I don't tell him these things that my youngest and I do while he's at work.

I trust him, even though I just got out of an abusive relationship with a narcissist a year ago.

The guy I'm dating now was the one who brought it to light that I was in an abusive relationship.

I still have a lot of things I need to work out within myself, but I just don't want anyone else to try to control me.

What do you think?
— *Unsure*

Dear Unsure: "How was your day?" and "What did you guys do today?" are both simple and respectful conversation-starters.

The red flag here is if your boyfriend accuses you of "lying," when you neglect to fill in every detail of how you spent your time during the day.

Ask him — does he need or expect a complete accounting of how you spent your time, and if so — why?

Given that you are recently out of a controlling or abusive relationship, it seems too soon for you to be in another serious relationship, especially if you and your boyfriend are cohabiting.

You have gone from one serious relationship directly into another one.

You really do need to give yourself time to work on some personal issues, and the person you are with (when the time is right) should not only trust you, but should value your judgment, strength and independence.

Dear Amy: I married in 1980, at age 17, three days after graduating high school. I have spent all the time since caring for husband, children and grandchildren.

I'll be 60 this year, and this will mark two years of living alone for the first time. I'm not a fan.

I don't know the rules of dating, especially in this pandemic.

Can you offer any advice or resource that can help?

Going to church to find a date just sounds wrong to me. I don't drink, so that knocks me out of the bar scene. I have an online ad up, but so far it just seems to attract scammers and ghosters. Your ideas?
— *Senior Single*

Dear Senior: My first idea is for my next business: a new algorithm that somehow prevents the dreaded "ghosting" phenomenon.

In terms of online matching, I am not sure

what you mean by an "online ad," but I suggest that you try a variety of dating sites until you find one that results in a better yield for you (Match.com and eHarmony.com both ranked high in a 2021 US News ranking of sites for seniors).

Online matching is ... a numbers game, unfortunately, and the phrase "kiss some frogs" comes to mind. Have a friend review your profile to make sure it reflects you at your best.

More important than matching with a romantic partner at 60 is for you to enrich your life. Go hiking, biking or bird watching. Enroll in a class at your local community college. Volunteer to prepare and serve food for the hungry.

Do not do these things to meet men. Do these things to find yourself.

Also, if you do not like living alone, consider taking in a roommate or two. The Golden Girls were really onto something.

Dear Amy: "Stuck with Memories" needed suggestions for getting rid of items. I enjoy my local "Buy Nothing" group through Facebook.

Many people in my neighborhood group are crafters and always looking for things to repurpose.
— *Landfill Avoidant*

Dear Avoidant: Several readers have recommended "Buy Nothing" groups for people looking to downsize. What a great idea!

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TV REVIEW

Doc ‘Lucy and Desi’ can’t best an earlier movie

1993 ‘Home Movie’ from daughter of Ball, Arnaz tops Poehler’s entry

By **Nina Metz**
Chicago Tribune

With the premiere of the documentary “Lucy and Desi” directed by Amy Poehler on Amazon, the streaming platform is home now to three projects about Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz. It joins the release this past fall of the embarrassingly bad biopic from Aaron Sorkin (“Being the Ricardos” starring Nicole Kidman and Javier Bardem) and, on the other end of the spectrum, the wonderfully complex and compelling 1993 documentary “Lucy and Desi: A Home Movie,” made by the couple’s daughter, Lucie Arnaz.

Of the three films, Poehler’s effort falls somewhere in the middle, at once superfluous but sincere in its efforts to celebrate and also understand the duo who would change television forever, but had a famously difficult marriage as well, which would end, after two decades together, in 1960. Poehler is entirely off-camera for this effort and you can understand with her extensive career as a comedic performer — as well as a celebrity marriage of her own, to Will Arnett, which also ended in divorce — why she might have a natural affinity for Ball’s story.

But the relationship at the film’s center remains a combustible mystery.

Lucie Arnaz was interviewed for Poehler’s documentary (she’s identified here by her married name, Lucie Arnaz Luckinbill) and her observations seem to have mellowed in the years since she made her own film. Or maybe that’s because of the questions Poehler chose to ask or the decisions she made in edit-



This image released by Amazon shows Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz in a photo from “Lucy and Desi.” **LIBRARY OF CONGRESS**

ing. Either way, the project glosses over the surface, compared with “A Home Movie,” which is compassionate but straightforward about the nuances and human flaws of the couple in question.

Where the 1993 documentary is rooted in footage from grainy home movies, Poehler’s “Lucy and Desi” relies on old cassettes. “My parents had these tapes, these audiotapes that they kept,” Arnaz Luckinbill tells her. Why did they make these tapes? For whom? We never learn the back story; the tapes (which serve as voice-over narration in the film) are discussed briefly at the top of “Lucy and Desi” and then never mentioned again.

What the new documentary offers are the occasional details that

often aren’t part of the lore, including Ball’s experiences as head of their studio, Desilu Productions. It was a role she took on after their divorce, when Ball bought out Arnaz’s shares and became president. But it wasn’t a job she relished. We see footage of her behind the scenes talking with two male colleagues, hashing out a problem with lighting and shadows. It looks like a typical workplace back-and-forth, of people huddled together, brows furrowed. And then one of the men decides he’s had enough of her questions: “I don’t know how to light a scene without lights. Period.” Ball has her arms crossed, and when he says this, her eyes dart in a flicker of annoyance: “No, I’m not asking

that,” she says firmly as she walks away, disgusted by his passive-aggressive comment. “I’m not suggesting that.” She’s the head of the studio, and this is how her employee is talking to her, with open sarcasm. When referring to this period in her life, Carol Burnett recalls that Ball once told her: “Kid, that’s when they put the ‘s’ on the end of my last name.”

Poehler also pauses to let us consider the startling invasion of privacy the pair experienced when Ball took a pregnancy test. Apparently, gossip columnist Walter Winchell had a spy in the lab and broke the news on his radio show that she was indeed pregnant before even the couple were informed themselves. This story comes up briefly in Arnaz Luckinbill’s film

as well, but Poehler takes a moment to underscore just how galling and violating Winchell’s behavior actually was.

Even so, watching “Lucy and Desi,” you’re left with so many unanswered questions about the texture of their marriage. What did it look like behind closed doors — the good times and the bad and everything in between?

For a better sense of who they were, together and individually, 1993’s “A Home Movie” remains the one to watch. The interviews Arnaz Luckinbill includes (with friends and colleagues) flesh out just how complicated things really were: The couple was dazzling! But their marriage was difficult. They had so much fun together until ultimately

they didn’t. There was a lot of love there. Eventually considerable professional success. But also a good deal of regret and unhappiness.

There was Ball’s discom-bobulated childhood, as well as Arnaz’s disrupted teenage years when his family, stripped of their wealth and influence, fled Cuba for the United States. But I have yet to see a film try to contextualize Arnaz’s fame as a white Cuban man who introduced the conga — with its specifically Afro-Cuban origins — to the U.S. Years earlier, his father, as mayor of Santiago de Cuba, had in fact banned the conga in their hometown, calling it “one of those scientifically inexplicable regressions toward a dark past.” Was Arnaz’s later embrace of the conga an act of defiance? Or something opportunistic, along the lines of cultural appropriation? That’s a knot worth unraveling.

Poehler’s film only glancingly acknowledges Arnaz’s alcoholism, and it does not address Ball’s tendency to withdraw and her growing feelings of bitterness. In 1993, Arnaz Luckinbill seemed more willing to let some uncomfortable truths come out, if only because it painted a more complicated and human picture of her parents beyond the fame and glamour and buoyant exuberance generated by “I Love Lucy.”

TV is always a fantasy, though, and nobody knows that better than a kid raised in Hollywood.

“These were people trying desperately to be a family,” she says in the earlier film, “and there are no perfect families out there. There *aren’t*. And the fact that we’re haunted by ‘The Donna Reed Show’ and ‘Father Knows Best’ is not a reason to expect your family to be like that, because nobody’s is.”

Where to watch: Amazon Prime

TV Q&A

Why is it hard to hear dialogue?

By **Rich Heldenfels**
Tribune News Service

Q: On pretty much every show, there is “music” in the background; I would prefer to call it noise. The “music” often drowns out the speech and makes it difficult to hear. Is there a cure for this, please?

A: This question is asked more than any other. And your dilemma doesn’t just involve TV. Ben Pearson of SlashFilm recently wrote a detailed discussion of why movie dialogue can be hard to hear in theaters as well as on your home screen. Some of the reasons Pearson covered included filmmakers deliberately making the sound difficult for artistic reasons, filmmakers’ lack of knowledge about getting good sound, ever more complicated movie technology, and the differences needed when mixing a movie’s sound for theaters, streaming and home theater systems. Among other things, Pearson concluded that “if the processes of capturing, creating and shaping great sound were better understood throughout the industry, substantial steps to improving those processes could be implemented.”

All those problems can affect your TV, too. And with music, keep in mind that the show has paid for that music and wants to highlight it, and the show’s makers often believe the music adds to the drama of a scene. Considering the speed at which TV shows are often made, the sound may have been mixed hastily and imperfectly. Or the broadcaster may not have been careful with its audio settings. Then wonder about the audio quality in your TV set, since it’s long been argued that some TV speakers are not up to the task of modern sound. Or you may need to look at the TV settings to see if they let



In some cases, the sound on a TV show may have been mixed hastily, making it hard to hear the dialogue. **DREAMSTIME**

you reconfigure the audio. My TCL television sets come with an audio setting called “dialog enhancer” to help with this problem.

If you have a home theater or other external speakers, a low-tech solution may be moving the speakers in relation to where you sit. (Another low-tech idea: Turn on closed captions.)

The music versus dialogue problem declined when we made the switch from speakers to a sound bar. When I talked about this once before, a reader recommended a speaker from Zvox called the Accu-voice, which uses a type of hearing-aid technology to pull dialogue out of the soundtrack. But even with a home theater or a sound bar, you may have to work with the settings to find the best balance.

Finally, there may be human factors. Older folks are less accustomed to a loud music mix than younger viewers who grew up with it. While some readers have said the problem is not their hearing, another said his test “found serious hearing loss.”

Q: When will “Yellowstone” season four be available on Peacock? Will “1883” stream on Peacock or another service?
A: I have mentioned before

that finding “Yellowstone” can be confusing because it airs first on the Paramount Network but does not stream on Paramount+. Instead, as you noted, its streaming home is Peacock, and that’s where you will find the fourth season of “Yellowstone” beginning on March 28. However, “1883,” a prequel to “Yellowstone,” is streaming on Paramount+.

Q: I have been trying to find the name of a movie starring Rock Hudson and Tony Franciosa. Hudson was developing a new car, and Franciosa comes into the picture, and there is a scene where they contact the owners of the cars and recall them so that they can get them all back to the manufacturer.
A: There is a 1978 mini-series called “Wheels,” or “Arthur Hailey’s Wheels” because it is based on a Hailey novel. It involves an auto company, and Hudson and Franciosa are in the cast. I am not sure where to find it, but I hope that having a title can help your search in the future.

Do you have a question or comment about entertainment past, present and future? Write to Rich Heldenfels, P.O. Box 417, Mogadore, OH 44260, or brenfels@gmail.com. Letters may be edited.

HOROSCOPES

Tarot.com

Aries (March 21-April 19): You’ve got a lot of people clamoring for your attention today. Try to link up with some friends, and get together to make a difference. Mars is also emphasizing community service, so setting up a food drive or donating a few hours will be worth it!

Taurus (April 20-May 20): You could make progress at the speed of light today, helping you cut through the fog and climb the ladder quicker. It’s a great day to unveil any projects you’ve been working on, so if you’re sitting on a great idea, consider this the time to pitch it to any potentially interested people.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): There’s an opportunity for you to get aligned with your vision of yourself today, helping you evolve into the next stage of your existence. Create a list of things you would like to manifest in your life, preferably things that force you to grow and change, then start tackling them!

Cancer (June 21-July 22): Life might feel a bit more intense today than usual, which could make it feel like someone turned the temperature up quite a few degrees. Boundaries can dissolve at the drop of a hat, so try to get clear about what you want unless you want to get dragged along by someone else.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Associated Press

On March 8, 1618, German astronomer Johannes Kepler devised his third law of planetary motion.

In 1965, the United States landed its first combat troops in South Vietnam.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Your connections take on a new importance today, orienting your focus toward the people in your contacts. Whether it’s a loved one, friend, or business associate, someone is bound to play a major role in your life. It’s time to focus on forming dynamic duos rather than making it a solo show.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You can aim high and still keep your feet on the ground. Look toward your future goals, but tend to the nuts and bolts in order for the whole machine to work as efficiently as possible. Focus on making little changes and improvements that will result in a big shift down the line.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): There are no limits on what you can achieve now, especially manifesting your desires, making it easier for you to get clear about what you want. Whether it’s a day of pure fun or something more intense, the planets are encouraging you to chase everything you desire.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You could take a deep dive today, so don’t be surprised if things feel rather emotional. Stick close to home, because there is going to be a matter demanding your attention! You’ve got the abilities to handle whatever comes your way, whether it’s serious or lighthearted.

In 1971, Joe Frazier defeated Muhammad Ali by decision in what was billed as “The Fight of the Century” at Madison Square Garden in New York.

In 1983, in a speech to the National Association of Evangelicals convention in Orlando, Florida, President Ronald Reagan referred to the Soviet Union as an “evil empire.”

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): There’s a social mood to the day, one that wants you to get out and about and connect. These two planets are bringing more opportunities right to your front door — or at least extremely close by. Call up a friend or someone special and see if they care to join you for a night on the town!

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You’ve probably got at least one eye on your finances today, if not both firmly planted on them. Manifest some money. You could come up with the perfect idea to increase your revenue stream or perhaps land a new client who will earn you a nice paycheck in the process.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You may have a delightfully fun day ahead of you, helping you see the positive side of everything. These two will form a beautiful trine that sends sparks of joy across the skies and right into your life, so take this as a sign that you can do as you please.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): A chance to relax and go with the flow is waiting for you right now. You’re being invited to take your foot off the gas and just coast along. Give yourself permission to check out from life. Today is about self-care — you can get back to reality and everyone else’s problems later.

In 1999, baseball Hall of Famer Joe DiMaggio died at age 84.

In 2004, Iraq’s Governing Council signed a landmark interim constitution.

In 2014, Malaysia Airlines Flight MH370, a Boeing 777 with 239 people on board, vanished during a flight, setting off a massive and ultimately unsuccessful search.

BONUS PUZZLE PAGE

An extra array of word games, search and Jumble. Want more? Play online at [PlayJumble.com](https://www.playjumble.com)



Scan QR code to play online.

SUDOKU

			3		8	5	1	
				2	7			
						3		9
			8				9	
6	1	8				7	3	5
	9				3			
8		1						
			4	9				
			2	1		6		7

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Level: 1 2 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

8	7	4	9	8	1	2	9	6
8	9	1	2	6	7	7	9	8
2	9	6	9	8	7	1	7	8
1	8	2	8	7	9	7	6	9
9	8	7	6	7	2	8	1	9
7	6	9	1	9	8	8	7	2
6	2	8	7	1	9	9	8	7
9	7	8	7	2	6	9	8	1
7	1	9	8	9	8	6	2	7

BOGGLE

Boggle BrainBusters!

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

C	U	R	S
E	A	I	P
D	N	L	A
E	T	E	M

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INSTRUCTIONS: Find as many words as you can by linking letters up, down, side-to-side and diagonally, writing words on a blank sheet of paper. You may only use each letter box once within a single word. Play with a friend and compare word finds, crossing out common words.

BOGGLE POINT SCALE

- 3 letters = 1 point
- 4 letters = 2 points
- 5 letters = 3 points
- 6 letters = 4 points
- 7 letters = 6 points
- 8 letters = 10 points
- 9+ letters = 15 points

YOUR BOGGLE RATING

- 151+ = Champ
- 101-150 = Expert
- 61-100 = Pro
- 31-60 = Gamer
- 21-30 = Rookie
- 11-20 = Amateur
- 0-10 = Try again

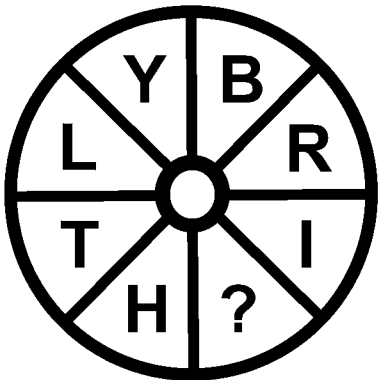
Boggle BrainBusters Bonus

We put special brain-busting words into the grid of letters. Can you find them?

Find AT LEAST SIX TREES in the grid of letters.

ELM PALM PINE MAPLE CEDAR SPRUCE

WordWheel



Insert the missing letter to complete an eight-letter word reading clockwise or counterclockwise.

BRIGHTLY

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WORD SEARCH

Wordsearch: u-two

Can you find all the words hidden in the grid? Read backwards or forwards, up or down, or diagonally. The words will always be in a straight line. Cross them off the list as you find them.

H	U	B	B	U	B	S	Q	S	M	N	U	R	T	U	R	E	Z
N	S	Z	L	X	A	Q	U	O	R	U	M	N	O	P	U	C	E
X	A	Z	L	O	U	T	R	U	N	U	C	Y	R	N	D	R	Z
F	P	M	D	L	S	U	T	U	R	E	C	U	R	E	U	V	A
T	A	U	O	U	P	K	N	N	F	S	K	S	T	W	U	X	
V	C	T	T	N	G	X	M	E	E	U	N	C	U	R	L	F	U
R	R	U	U	J	U	O	U	R	N	L	U	F	W	S	M	U	N
S	F	A	M	O	R	E	U	R	H	C	V	F	U	T	U	G	U
U	R	L	U	U	U	T	M	T	Y	R	M	X	S	I	R	U	S
B	A	U	L	Q	L	S	U	A	K	U	F	U	K	P	M	E	U
U	U	N	T	U	O	U	U	L	E	M	G	I	S	S	U	J	A
R	B	F	C	N	Y	M	S	U	Y	U	L	S	U	E	R	H	L
B	U	U	V	C	O	D	S	R	A	B	H	C	V	V	U	U	
I	R	R	K	U	T	R	U	A	T	X	U	A	U	T	U	M	N
V	N	L	N	T	U	S	N	U	I	A	M	N	N	V	U	D	I
A	O	U	T	P	U	T	D	G	C	M	U	S	K	O	T	R	Q
P	E	T	U	T	U	G	W	U	C	U	S	E	F	U	L	U	U
S	U	B	D	U	E	D	U	R	U	N	S	U	N	G	M	M	E

AUBURN	FULCRUM	MUUMUU	TUMULT
AUGUR	FUTURE	NURTURE	TUTU
AUGUST	GURU	OUTPUT	UNCURL
AUTUMN	HUBBUB	OUTRUN	UNCUT
BUNKUM	HUMDRUM	PURSUE	UNFURL
CAUCUS	HUMUS	QUEUE	UNIQUE
CULTURE	LUXURY	QUORUM	UN Sung
CUMULUS	MUCUS	RUCKUS	UNUSUAL
DUGOUT	MURMUR	SUBDUE	USEFUL
FATUOUS	MUSEUM	SUBURB	USURP
FUGUE	MUTUAL	SUTURE	USURY

TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8
9						10	11	
12						13		
14						15		
25	26	27				28	29	
30						31		
32						33		
39	40	41				42	43	
44						45		
46						47		

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

1/8/17

ACROSS

- Woods or Caan
- "The ___"; Efrem Zimbalist Jr. series
- Household appliance brand
- Singer Hayes
- "___ Night Lights"
- Zoom down snowy slopes
- Red Skelton's ___ Kadiddlehopper
- Anthem opening
- Film director Preminger
- Hard fat used in cooking
- Actor ___ McDonough
- "The ___ Kid"; movie by Pat Morita
- North African desert
- Tel ___, Israel
- Actress Blanchett
- Easy to handle
- "Touched by an ___"
- "Cougar ___"
- Stein or Stiller
- Series for Nathan Fillion
- Stockholm fellow

DOWN

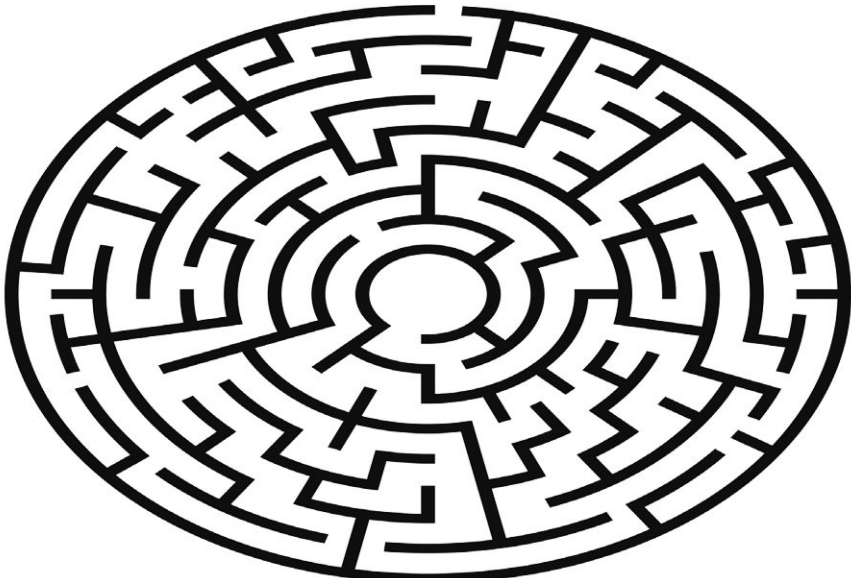
- Highest-grossing film of 1975
- Run ___; go berserk
- Role on "Code Black"
- "Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's ___"; Johnny Depp film
- "___ Yes to the Dress"
- Passing craze
- Sheep's comment
- Like dangerous winter roads
- Anger
- Actor on "The Big Bang Theory"
- "I'll ___ Away"
- "___ on a Hot Tin Roof"
- Gilligan's living quarters
- "We're off to ___ the Wizard..."
- Actress Leoni
- Street paver's goo
- Ending for Motor or pay
- Actress Dennings of "2 Broke Girls"
- ___ Gardner
- Curved edge
- Hang limply
- Dined
- Network for Anderson Cooper
- Sense of wonderment
- "The New Adventures of ___ Christine"
- "The ___ of Night"; soap opera of old
- ___-do-well; bum
- Series for George Eads, once "One Day ___ Time"
- Actress Laura ___ Giacomo
- Univ. in Dallas
- Obi-___ Kenobi

J	A	M	E	S		F	B	I
A	M	A	N	A		I	S	A
W	O	R	D	Y		F	R	I
S	K	I				O	L	E
						O	H	S
						S	U	E
K	A	R	A	T	E	S	A	H
A	V	I	V			C	A	T
T	A	M	E			A	N	G
C	A	S	T	L	E		S	W
S	T	A	I	D			M	A
I	A	N					U	N

1/15/17

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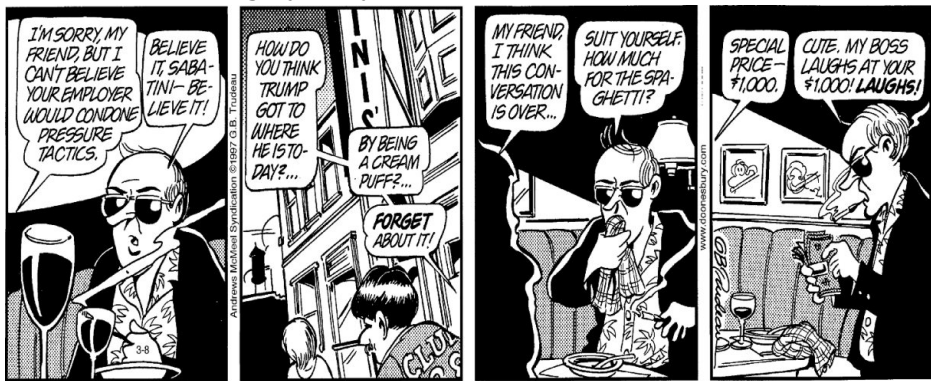
KIDNEWS FUN & GAMES



Peanuts By Charles M. Schulz



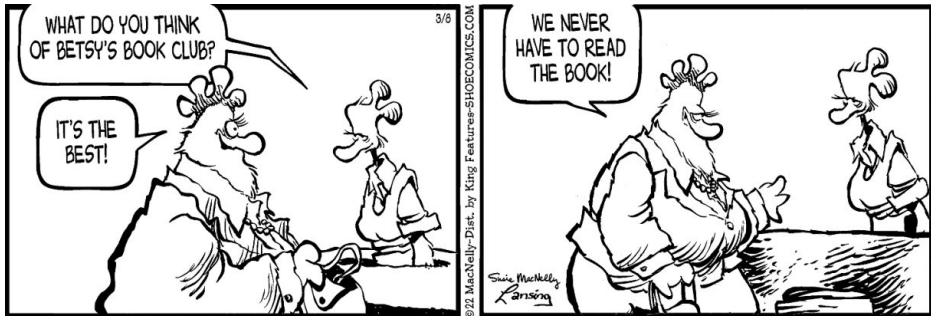
Classic Doonesbury By Garry Trudeau



Garfield By Jim Davis



Shoe By Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly



Dustin By Steve Kelley & Jeff Parker



Pearls Before Swine By Stephan Pastis



Mutts By Patrick McDonnell



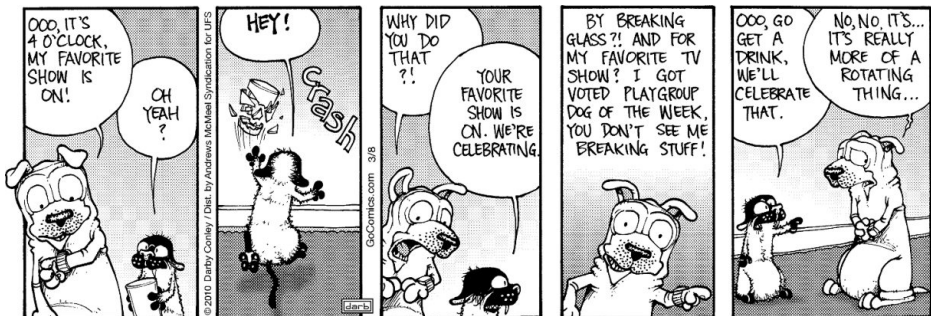
Arctic Circle By Alex Hallatt



Jump Start By Robb Armstrong



Get Fuzzy By Darby Conley



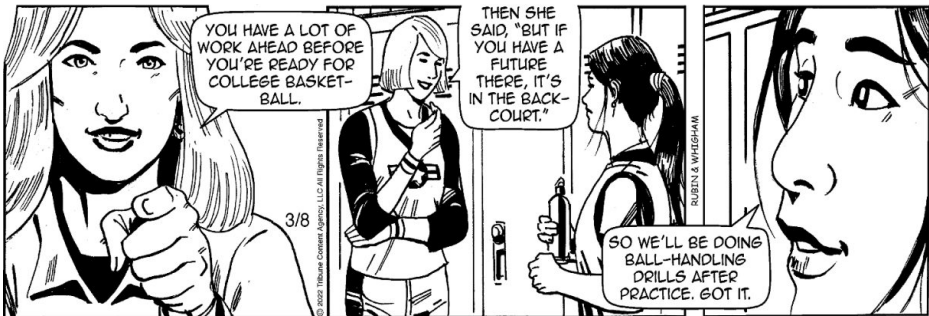
Blondie By Dean Young and John Marshall



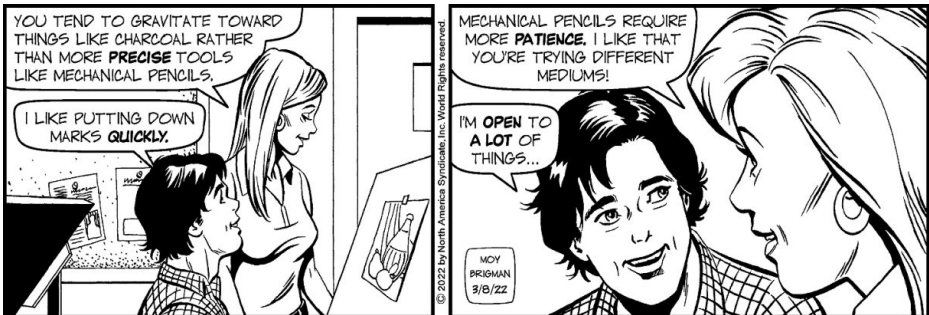
Dilbert By Scott Adams



Gil Thorp By Neal Rubin and Frank McLaughlin



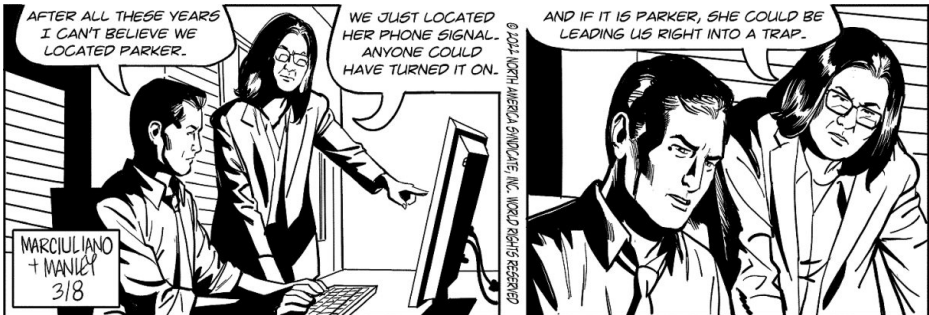
Mary Worth By Karen Moy and June Brigman



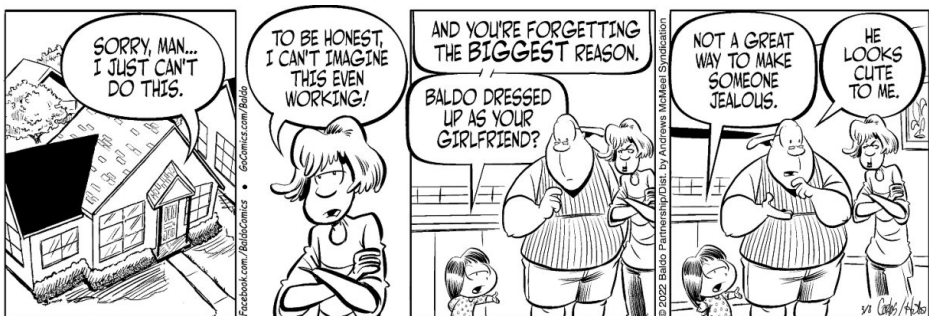
Rex Morgan, M.D. By Terry Beatty



Judge Parker By Woody Wilson and Mike Manley



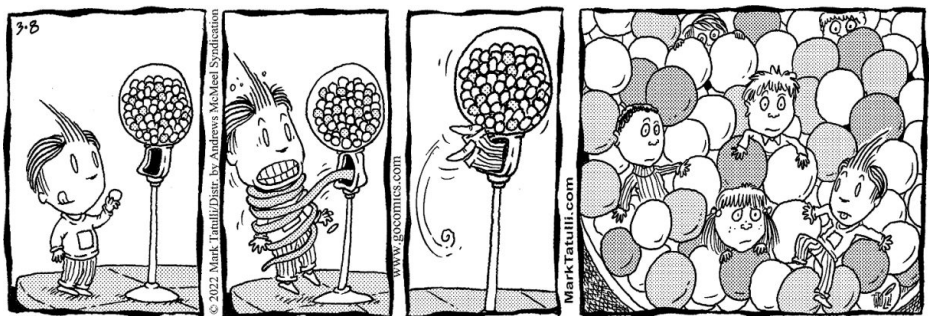
Baldo By Cantu and Castellanos



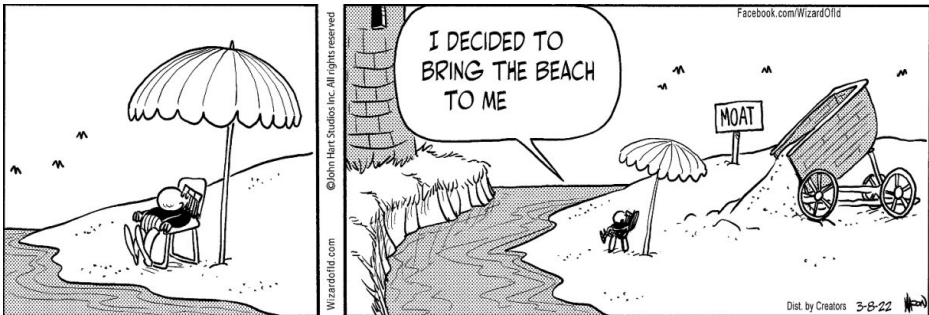
Funky Winkerbean By Tom Batiuk



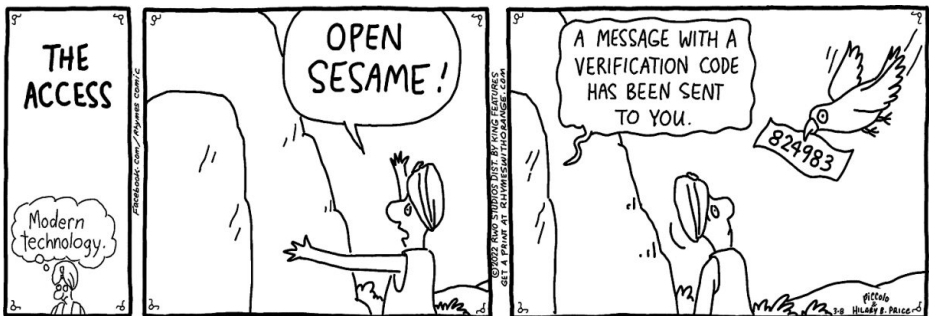
Lio By Mark Tatulli



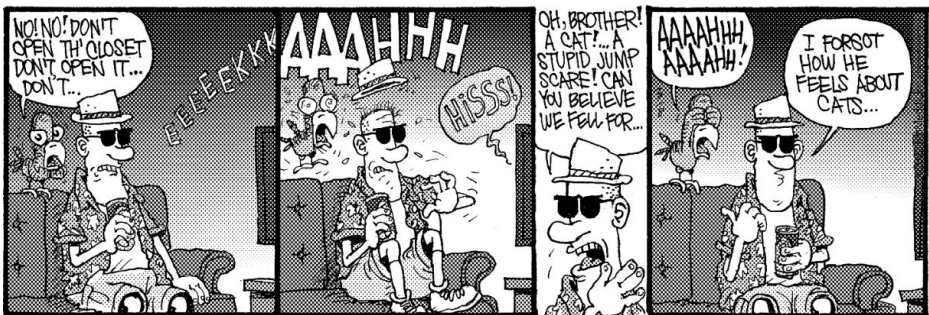
Wizard Of Id By Johnny Hart and Brant Parker

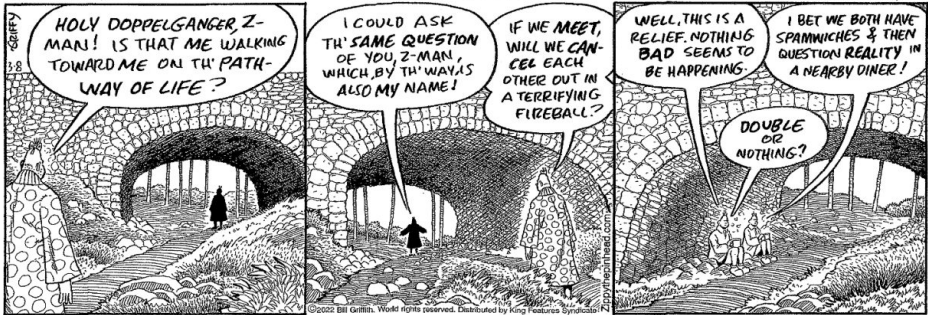


Rhymes With Orange By Hilary Price



Monty By Jim Meddick





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GOOD, YOU SHOULD SEE MY..."

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JOUST
CYRUL
CURLY
EBBUBL
BUBBLE
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DEMENT
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BIG EAST WOMEN'S TOURNAMENT: NO. 6 UCONN 70, VILLANOVA 40

‘Together,’ they can

Tourney run
was a feast
for the eyes



Dom Amore

UNCASVILLE — Rare is the team that grows this much during a season. Rare is the team that comes together at the right time, exactly the way the most starry-eyed optimist would have envisioned.

Rare, too, is the team that loses its best player for most of the season, and doesn't need to ask the impossible of her when she returns.

This UConn women's basketball team is a rare one. It's not yet time to compare the Huskies to their 11 championship predecessors; that's not the point. But this team, the way it has evolved into a formidable collection of talent that is even better than the sum of its parts, is a unique chapter in the program's history. The 70-40 victory over Villanova in the Big East tournament final Monday night at Mohegan Sun isn't the end, but another beginning.

"I just know that wherever [the analysts] had us three weeks ago, I don't think they'd have us there anymore," coach Geno Auriemma said during this Big East Tournament. "I don't know where they're changing us to, but I don't think we're where they thought we were going to be three weeks ago or a month ago."

Maybe Seton Hall coach Anthony Bozzella said it better: "If you think UConn is the eighth or ninth best team in the country, you're a fool."

Nine is where the last NCAA bracket reveal, based largely on the Net Rankings, had the Huskies seeded for the Field of 68. They'll be better than that on Selection Sunday. Bozzella was talking about the eye-ball test, and he was right.

What a feast for the eyes this team has been throughout the tournament.

Villanova caught UConn at its most vulnerable on Feb. 9, with six players, none named Paige Bueckers, Caroline Ducharme or

Turn to Amore, Page 4



UConn's Nika Muhl (10) and UConn's Christyn Williams (13) double team Villanova's Lior Garzon (12) in the first half of the Big East Tournament championship game Monday at Mohegan Sun Arena in Uncasville. CLOE POISSON/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT

UConn wins
20th Big East
title, avenges
February loss
to Villanova

By Lori Riley
Hartford Courant

UNCASVILLE — This was clearly not the Feb. 9 UConn team that Villanova was facing Monday night in the Big East Tournament championship game at Mohegan Sun Arena.

Villanova beat UConn that night at the XL Center, ending the Huskies' 169-game conference winning streak. But the Huskies also had no Paige Bueckers, no Caroline Ducharme and no Olivia Nelson-Ododa that day in early February.

Monday, they were all back and UConn was a different team, playing lockdown defense on Villanova's top player Maddie Siegrist, the second-leading scorer in the country, and the Wildcats in general.

Top-seeded UConn beat No. 2 Villanova 70-40 for its 27th conference tournament title and 20th Big East championship.

The Huskies (25-5) will wait to see where they are sent for the NCAA Tournament on Selection Sunday. They are likely to be a No. 2 seed in the tournament, but it's uncertain in which region they will end up.

UConn had a very balanced scoring effort Monday with Evina Westbrook leading the Huskies with 13 points, Aaliyah Edwards with 12 and Nelson-Ododa adding 11.

Christyn Williams, who scored nine points, was named the tournament's most outstanding player.

"This one is my favorite one, this championship," Williams said. "We just stuck together. We never gave up."

The last time Villanova played UConn in the Big East Tournament championship game was 2003, when Diana Taurasi was a junior. Villanova won that game, 52-48, ending then-No. 1 UConn's 70-game winning streak, the longest in Division I. That was the last time Villanova won the Big East title.

This season, Villanova (23-8) was averaging 66.4 points per game and Siegrist 26.4 points. But

Turn to UConn, Page 4

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Home sick: Ukrainian players in US anxiously watching homeland

By John Marshall
Associated Press

PHOENIX — Grand Canyon University junior center Dima Zdor has tried to maintain a routine, a mix of schoolwork, practice and games. His attention for all the other hours in the day is halfway across the world.

One of a handful of Ukrainians playing college basketball in the United States, Zdor can only watch from afar in Phoenix and hope his

family and friends remain safe as Russian troops roll through his home country.

"I watch a lot of news from back home and it's just upsetting how little villages and towns are getting destroyed and overtaken, just for the reason of politics," he said. "It's sad. It's scary. It's uncomfortable to open Twitter or watch the news every day and be scared of what's going on

Turn to Ukraine, Page 4



Utah State center Trevin Dorius is pressured by then-Weber State forward Dima Zdor in a 2019 game. Zdor now plays for Grand Canyon and is one of a handful of Ukrainians playing college basketball in the United States. He can only watch from afar as Russian troops roll through his home country, hoping his family and friends remain safe. ELI LUCERO/AP

BASEBALL

Labor relations experts follow MLB negotiations from afar

By Jay Cohen
Associated Press

CHICAGO — Allen Sanderson grew up in Idaho. He played high school baseball and worked for a minor league team in Twin Falls, providing a ride home for Dick Allen long before he became a feared slugger with the Philadelphia Phillies.

That's part of how Sanderson sees baseball's labor strife, as a longtime baseball fan. But he also follows along from a different perspective, one of a sports economist at the University of Chicago.

"What is the right division between the owners and the players? How much should the players get? How much should the owners get?" Sanderson said. "There's no right answer to that question. There may well be to you making French fries at McDonald's or something like that. There probably is a right answer to that question about what's a reasonable amount in a competitive marketplace for you to earn."

"But once you're in the sports world or the entertainment world, something

Turn to MLB, Page 2

Safety Tip of the Day

Always keep hot food and drinks away from and out of reach of children and avoid holding your child if you're having hot food and drinks.

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SPORTS

UP NEXT

UConn MBB: Big East Quarterfinal vs. Georgetown/Seton Hall, Thursday, 9:30 p.m.; Big East Semifinal (if necessary) vs. TBD, Friday, 6:30/9 p.m.; Big East Final (if necessary) vs. TBD, Saturday, 6:30 p.m.
UConn WBB: NCAA First Round vs. TBD, March 18/19, time TBD; NCAA Second Round (if necessary) vs. TBD, March 20/21, time TBD; NCAA Sweet 16 (if necessary) vs. TBD, March 26, time TBD
Celtics: at Hornets, Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Pistons, Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Mavericks, Sunday, 3:30 p.m.
Knicks: at Mavericks, Wednesday, 8:30 p.m.; at Grizzlies, Friday, 8 p.m.; at Nets, Sunday, 1 p.m.
Nets: at Hornets, Tuesday, 7 p.m.; at 76ers, Thursday, 7:30 p.m.; Knicks, Sunday, 1 p.m.
UConn hockey: Hockey East Quarterfinal vs. Boston Uni., Saturday, 4:30 p.m.; Hockey East Semifinal (if necessary), March 18, 4/7:30 p.m.; Hockey East Final (if necessary) vs. TBD, March 19, 7 p.m.
Bruins: Chicago, Thursday, 7 p.m.; Coyotes, Saturday, 7 p.m.; at Chicago, March 15, 8:30 p.m.
Rangers: at Wild, Tuesday, 8 p.m.; at Blues, Thursday, 8 p.m.; at Stars, Saturday, 8 p.m.
Wolf Pack: at Lehigh Valley, Saturday, 7 p.m.; at W-B/Scranton, Sunday, 3 p.m.; at Syracuse, March 16, 7 p.m.

TV/RADIO BASKETBALL

Noon: Women's College Horizon Tournament, Championship. (Live) ESPN
2 p.m.: ACC Tournament: NC State vs Clemson. (Live) ACC
2 p.m.: Women's College Summit Tournament, Championship. (Live) ESPN
4 p.m.: Women's College WCC Tournament, Championship. (Live) ESPN
4:30 p.m.: ACC Tournament: Georgia Tech vs Louisville. (Live) ACC
5 p.m.: Atlantic Sun Tournament: Bellarmine at Jacksonville. (Live) ESPN
7 p.m.: Nets at Hornets. (Live) YES
7 p.m.: ACC Tournament: Boston College vs Pittsburgh. (Live) ACC
7 p.m.: CAA Tournament, Championship. (Live) CBSSN
7 p.m.: Horizon Tournament, Championship. (Live) ESPN
7 p.m.: NEC Tournament: Wagner at Bryant. (Live) ESPN
7:30 p.m.: Pelicans at Grizzlies. (Live) TNT
9 p.m.: WCC Tournament, Championship. (Live) ESPN
9 p.m.: Summit League Tournament, Championship. (Live) ESPN
10 p.m.: Clippers at Warriors. (Live) TNT
HOCKEY
8 p.m.: Rangers at Wild. (Live) MSG
PARALYMPICS
Noon: Para Biathlon, Para Alpine Skiing, Sled Hockey. (Same-day Tape) USA
SOCCER
3 p.m.: UEFA Champions League Liverpool vs Inter. (Live) CBS
3 p.m.: CONCACAF Women's U-20 Championship (Live) FSP
6 p.m.: CONCACAF Women's U-20 Championship (Live) FSP
8 p.m.: CONCACAF Champions League New York City FC vs Comunicaciones. (Live) FS1
10 p.m.: CONCACAF Champions League Seattle Sounders FC vs Club Leon. (Live) FS1

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL WEEK 12

Taking a look back at the CCC tournament

By Lori Riley
Hartford Courant

The CCC boys basketball tournament did not disappoint last week, with two impressive performances by Bristol Central senior and UConn recruit Donovan Clingan, who played against two of the top teams in the state — Windsor and Northwest Catholic — in the semifinals and final.

Clingan topped off the week with a 45-point performance in the championship game, a 63-56 win over Northwest Catholic on Thursday. It was a shootout between Clingan and Northwest's senior guard Matt Curtis, who had 38 points.

The final was close: Curtis cut Bristol Central's lead to 34-33 on a driving layup with 5:10 left in the third quarter. Clingan then had a basket, teammate Damion Glasper hit a big 3-pointer and Northwest Catholic never got that close again.

A packed house of 1,200 fans at Enfield High watched the game.

"These guys were ready to go and focused," Bristol Central coach Tim Barrette said following the game. "This atmosphere tonight, this is why you play high school basketball. I can't be happier for these kids."

Bristol Central (24-0) will face the winner of the Amistad-Amity game in the second round of the Division II tournament Wednesday.

Players of the week

Gianluca Albert, Cromwell: Albert had 21 points in a 63-43 victory over East Hampton in the Shoreline Conference tournament semifinals last Tuesday and

23 points in a 55-39 win over Morgan on Friday in the championship game.

Donovan Clingan, Bristol Central: Clingan had 28 points, 24 rebounds and six blocks in a 57-37 victory over Windsor in the CCC tournament semifinals last Tuesday and 45 points, 28 rebounds and six blocks in the Rams' 63-56 win over Northwest Catholic in the championship game Thursday.

Matt Curtis, Northwest Catholic: Curtis had 38 points in the loss to Bristol Central on Thursday and 22 points in a 66-50 win over Conard in the CCC semifinals last Tuesday.

Jalen Hamblin, Conard: Hamblin scored 22 points in a CCC semifinal loss to Northwest Catholic last Tuesday.

Travis Mangual, Windham: Mangual had 22 points in the ECC Division II championship game, which the Whippets lost, 65-62, to Stonington last Tuesday.

Keyshawn Mitchell, Capital Prep: Mitchell had 26 points and 25 rebounds in a 67-47 win over Classical in the CRAL semifinals last Tuesday.

Teams of the week

Achievement First: The Royals lost to Capital Prep 75-66 on Jan. 17 but turned around and beat the top-seeded Trailblazers in the final of the CRAL tournament, 72-61. Achievement First was the No. 3 seed.

Bristol Central: The Rams finished the regular season undefeated and beat some of the best teams in the state.

SMSA: The Tigers won the NCCC tournament title 72-58 over Granby on Friday night. SMSA had faced Granby earlier in the season and won, 66-65.

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL WEEK 12

Mercy is ready for the Class L quarterfinals

By Lori Riley
Hartford Courant

Never count out the Mercy girls basketball team.

The Tigers (19-5), who finished their regular season on a six-game winning streak but were beaten by Daniel Hand (for the third time) in the SCC tournament semifinals on Feb. 21, won their CIAC state tournament second-round game against Fitch 71-43 on Friday. On Tuesday, the No. 4 seed will host another team that never can be counted out, fifth-seeded E.O. Smith, in the Class L quarterfinals.

"It's a lot of balance this year [in the tournament]," Mercy coach Tim Kohs said. "I don't think there are any teams that are so far above anybody else, that on a good night, you can't beat them."

Against teams it beat this season, Mercy hasn't allowed more than 46 points.

"We've been solid defensively," Kohs said. "When we shoot the ball well, we're a very good team, and when we're not, we need to find other ways to score."

Kohs said his team isn't that big and could struggle against E.O. Smith's 6-foot-2 post players Bella Mallory Allen, who averages 6.9 rebounds, and Maddie Hughes (6.0 rebounds). Hughes had 31 points in a second-round tournament win over Bethel on Friday.

"E.O. Smith is a tough matchup for us," he said. "The two big kids present problems for us, but it's going to be a good game, a contrast of styles."

Mercy last won a state title, in Class LL, in 2018.

Players of the week

Emma Diehl, Bolton: Diehl scored 25 points in a 54-31 win over Stafford in a Class S second-round game Friday.

Ayana Franks, Windsor: Franks had 26 points, 10 rebounds and eight steals in a 43-23 win over South Windsor in a first-round Class L game last Tuesday.

Camryn Hickey, Cromwell: Hickey went 8 for 10 from the free throw line in the fourth quarter and had 15 points and nine rebounds in a 53-40 win over Wolcott in the second round of the Class M tournament Friday.

Maddie Hughes, E.O. Smith: Hughes had 31 points in a 68-47 win over Bethel in a Class L second-round game Friday.



Mercy coach Tim Kohs, shown at the Class LL girls basketball championship game in 2018, says his current team is good defensively but will have its hands full with E.O. Smith's post players in a Class L quarterfinals Tuesday. COURANT FILE PHOTO

Emily Knowles, Conard: Knowles scored 21 points in a 43-40 loss to Greenwich last Monday in a Class LL first-round game.

Megan Loflin, Old Lyme: Loflin had 14 points and 14 rebounds in a 56-33 win over East Windsor in a first-round Class S game last Tuesday.

Ashanti McLean, Aerospace: McLean scored 20 points in a 39-36 loss to Ellis Tech in the first round of the Class S tournament last Tuesday.

Jaylice Rosario, Maloney: Rosario had 25 points and nine rebounds in a 46-39 Class L tournament first-round win over East Lyme last Tuesday.

Cara Shea, Bacon Academy: Shea had a career-high 16 points and added seven rebounds in a 77-34 Class M second-round victory over Griswold on Friday.

Shalyn Smith, Middletown: Smith scored 25 points in a 70-51 victory over Stamford in the Class LL second round n Thursday.

Teams of the week

Cromwell: The Panthers lost to Valley Regional in the Shoreline Conference semifinals but bounced back to win their first two games of the Class M state tournament over Lewis Mills and Wolcott. They will face a tough test in Bacon Academy in the quarterfinals Tuesday.

Farmington: The 10th-seeded River Hawks beat No. 7 Maloney 47-37 Friday night in the second round of the Class L tournament after a 45-33 win over Masuk in the first round last Monday. Coach Keith Garbart said his team was refocused after a first-round loss in the CCC tournament to Windsor.

Storylines of the week

■ Cromwell (22-1) rallied from an 11-point second-quarter deficit to defeat the only team that beat the Panthers this season — Morgan — for the Shoreline Conference championship, 55-39, on Friday night. Cromwell's defense held Morgan to two points in the third quarter.

■ Prince Tech beat Bullard-Havens last Monday in the quarterfinals, Cheney Tech last Tuesday in the semifinals, then lost to Abbott Tech 86-70 in the CTC championship game Thursday night.

■ Windham advanced to the ECC Division II championship game but lost 65-62 to Stonington, which won its 15th straight game. Windham's Malcolm Hunter had a shot at the buzzer but the 3-pointer bounced out of the basket.

Games to watch

Farmington at East Catholic, Thursday: Both CCC teams got first-round byes and will meet in the second round of the CIAC Division I tournament. Ninth-seeded Farmington, which lost in the first round of the CCC tournament by a point to Middletown, beat No. 8 East Catholic in their only meeting of the regular season, 85-76.

Canton at Wamogo, Wednesday: The two teams face off in the second round of the Division IV tournament. Ninth-seeded Canton (14-7) had a three-point loss to Stafford in the NCCC tournament quarterfinals. No. 8 Wamogo (16-6) lost in the semifinals of the Berkshire conference tournament to eventual champion Northwestern Regional.

Storylines of the week

■ Middletown coach Rob Smernoff won his 200th career game Thursday when the Blue Dragons beat Stamford 70-51 in a Class LL second-round game.

■ Manchester, seeded 24th, upset No. 9 seed Newtown 45-33 in a Class LL first-round game last Monday behind 19 points from Tiara Tyson but lost to No. 8 seed Southington in the second round, 51-42, on Thursday.

■ Maloney had to move its home game to Platt High last Tuesday due to a leaky roof, but the Spartans still managed to win their first state tournament game in 34 years, beating East Lyme, 46-39, in the first round in Class L. The Spartans lost to Farmington in the second round.

Games to watch

E.O. Smith at Mercy, Tuesday: Two top teams with different styles will meet in the Class L quarterfinals.

Farmington at Simsbury, Tuesday: In a previous matchup between the two CCC teams, Simsbury beat Farmington 34-24. The two teams will play once again in the Class L quarterfinals.

Bolton at Somers, Tuesday: Two NCCC teams square off in a Class S quarterfinal game. Somers beat Bolton 47-37 on Jan. 14.

Lori Riley can be reached at lriley@courant.com.

MLB

from Page 1

like that, you know just all bets are off. It's largely a function of how well can I negotiate our side in this."

That last part isn't going very well at the moment, not for Major League Baseball or its locked-out players.

Baseball's ninth work stoppage reached 96 days on Monday. It is the sport's first labor conflict to cause games to be canceled since the 1994-95 strike wiped out the World Series for the first time in 90 years.

The sides met for 95 minutes on Sunday, largely restating their positions to each other. Negotiations broke off last week after nine days of talks in Jupiter, Florida, and Commissioner Rob Manfred canceled the first two series of the season for each team, a total of 91 games.

While the sides try to chart a path forward, hoping to get baseball back on the field, some experts in labor relations and sports business are watching the dispute from an academic viewpoint.

"I look at it through the collective bargaining lens," said Art Wheaton, the director of labor studies in the Buffalo Co-Lab for Cornell University's industrial and labor relations school.

"The lens, I do a lot of training for unions about negotiations and how to bargain, so anything when it comes to contract time I keep an eye on."

Manfred, Deputy Commissioner Dan Halem and NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman each graduated from the ILR School at Cornell.

When Wheaton looks at the baseball talks, he sees a process bogged down by a complicated mix of audiences that includes big- and small-market owners, players with a wide range of salaries and agents attempting to indirectly influence the negotiations from afar.

"If you can make it collective bargaining where everybody on the company side and everybody on the union side are trying to solve the difference, that's a whole lot better than having all of the different owners pushing their own buttons and all of the different agents also trying to change it," said Wheaton, a Cincinnati Reds and Boston Red Sox fan who follows baseball more closely when it gets to the postseason.

"Collective means working together, and that I think is what has broken down here."

Wheaton also took issue with what he called "deadline bargaining," waiting until the last minute for substantive negotiations in hopes of creating big movement. After Major League Baseball locked out its players in early December, the sides didn't meet again until Jan. 13.

"It's not an unusual tactic. I just don't find it a very helpful tactic," he said. "You add a lot of extra stress and high risk, which some people like because it forces the other side to make a decision. But it's not always the best way to make a good, rational economic decision by waiting until the last minute, throwing all these numbers around."

The long-term effect of the lockout remains to be seen. It took baseball years to recover the last time it canceled games because of a labor action, and Manfred is likely to wipe out more of the schedule if there isn't a resolution soon.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Marquette's Lewis voted Big East's most improved player

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Marquette forward Justin Lewis won the Big East's most improved player award Monday and Creighton center

Ryan Kalkbrenner was named the defensive player of the year in a vote of the conference's coaches. Coaches are not allowed to vote for their own players. The conference's player of the year, coach of

the year, freshman of the year and scholar-athlete of the year will be announced Wednesday afternoon at Madison Square Garden before the conference tournament tips off.

Point guard Jared Bynum from regular-season champion Providence took the top sixth man award, and Georgetown captain Donald Carey was honored with the league's sportsmanship award.

Lewis, rated the Big East's best NBA prospect, boosted his averages from 7.8 points and 5.4 rebounds per game as a freshman reserve last season to 17.1 points and 8.0 rebounds in 2021-22.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Thursday: Big East quarterfinal, 9:30 p.m., FS1.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

March 18 or 19: NCAA Tournament first round

UConn

COURANT.COM/SPORTS



COVERAGE PRESENTED BY

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Amore

from Page 1

Olivia Nelson-Ododa. The Wildcats couldn't miss that night in Hartford, 29-for-56, 10-for-22 on threes. Still, UConn's short-handed cast nearly came back to win. That ended the conference winning streak, you may have heard, at 169.

So Monday was the worst possible night to play UConn. On top of everything else, the Huskies, after beating Georgetown and Marquette, were hungry, angry. In the rematch, Villanova, a good a team as it is, a tournament worthy team, and as great a player as its Maddy Siegrist is, had no chance. UConn opened a 9-0 lead, and Villanova made only five of its first 22 shots, UConn forcing them to launch from well beyond 3-point line. By the middle of the second quarter, it was only a matter of how close the 'Cats could stay.

This time they were 16-for-50, 7-for-23 on 3s.

With nine healthy players in rotation, UConn just had too many weapons, and it's hard to imagine a team, let alone eight or nine teams, being able to match the Huskies. The competition will get tougher in the weeks ahead, but UConn has barely employed Bueckers, the reigning player of the year, since she returned from her knee surgery. She still doesn't look like she's got her game legs, but she's bound to be cut loose if the Huskies are in trouble.

But a team that was thought to be all about Bueckers is now all about ... everyone. The Huskies are not only playing for one another, but willing to sit for one another.

Ducharme was so huge in mid-season, preventing a couple of additional losses. She hasn't been as big a factor lately, but there she was in the second quarter Monday, with UConn leading 17-10 but scoreless for more than five minutes. Ducharme infused the game with her energy, her knack for getting to the right spot and scored three quick baskets.

Aaliyah Edwards, who seemed to be in a funk earlier in the season, is playing monster defense and effective offense. She scored 12, Evina Westbrook 13, Nelson-Ododa 11, and so it went. Ducharme had nine, Azzi Fudd eight. How about this? UConn had 39 rebounds, but more assigned to "team," seven, than any individual collected.

No, forget the metrics and open your eyes — there is something going on here, something unique. After the Huskies beat Marquette in the semifinals, Auriemma talked in terms of the "UConn teams of old," something that has been missing the last few years. Remember, UConn has been to the Final Four 13 years in a row, but hasn't won since 2016. If something has been missing, that rare quality that turns excellent talent into a great team, a champion, these Huskies just may have found it.

Dom Amore can be reached at damore@courant.com

UConn BASKETBALL

Season ticket prices to increase over next 3 years

By Dom Amore Hartford Courant

It's going to cost more to watch UConn men's and women's basketball games over the next three years.

The athletic department, which put 2022-23 season packages on sale Monday, announced a series of increases. Men's basketball lower-bowl tickets for home games — including at Gampel Pavilion and XL Center — will rise from \$2,400 during the current season to \$3,700 for 2024-25.

In a message to season ticket holders, UConn director of athletics David Benedict wrote: "In examining best practices among our peers, we have seen that others, including the top programs in the Big East, are generating more funding through their scholarship seating programs than we are currently realizing. In some cases, annual fund-

raising efforts through tickets and/or seat donations are 20 to 30 percent higher at schools with which we compete regionally or nationally."

Among Big East schools, Xavier (\$2,650), Villanova (\$4,500), Creighton (\$4,750) and Marquette (\$5,230) have higher pricing than UConn.

In its communication with season ticket holders, UConn noted the cost of funding its programs has risen, and its current revenue covers only one-third of its scholarship costs. In its last fiscal year, UConn Athletics ran a deficit of \$472 million and was working under a directive to close that gap in the coming years, reducing its dependence on university subsidy and student fees.

Other seating areas will rise at different rates, higher for courtside seats, lower for others.



UConn's Christyn Williams reaches in on Villanova's Bella Runyan during the Big East Tournament championship game Monday at Mohegan Sun Arena. Williams was named the tournament's most outstanding player. CLOE POISSON/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT

UConn

from Page 1

UConn, which held its last six opponents to 51 or fewer points, did it again, holding Villanova to its lowest point total of the season. Siegrist ended up leading Villanova with 16 points. She was the only Wildcats player to score in double figures.

In the Feb. 9 game, Villanova was 10 for 22 from the 3-point line and hit nine 3-pointers in the semifinals against Seton Hall. Monday, the Wildcats were 7 for 23 from 3 and 16 for 50 from the field while UConn shot 55 percent from the field.

Huskies freshman Azzi Fudd, who shot 1 for 9 in the semifinals against Marquette, had nine points on 4 for 5 shooting Monday.

UConn came out in the first quarter and promptly turned

UConn 70, Villanova 40								UConn			M	FG	F	FT
Villanova	M	FG	FT	RB	A	PF	PT	Edwards	M	FG	F	FT		
Siegrist	40	7-17	1-2	1	2	3	16	Nelson-Obodo	23	4-4	3-3	0-0		
Herlihy	31	3-9	0-0	5	3	2	8	Fudd	36	4-5	4-5	0-0		
Olsen	30	2-5	0-0	0	0	1	5	Williams	29	4-9	4-9	0-0		
Garzon	34	1-11	0-0	2	1	0	3	Muhl	19	0-1	1-1	0-0		
Mullin	24	1-4	0-0	3	1	3	2	Westbrook	20	6-11	0-0	0-0		
Runyan	22	1-1	0-0	2	1	0	3	Ducharme	16	4-6	0-0	0-0		
Orlhel	13	1-2	0-0	2	0	2	3	Juhazs	17	1-3	2-2	0-0		
Caulley	6	0-1	0-0	0	0	1	0	Buckers	9	1-4	0-0	0-0		
TOTALS	-	16-50	1-2	17	8	12	40	TOTALS	-	32-52	29-29	0-0		
Three-point goals: 7-23, 30.4 (Herlihy 2-4, Runyan 1-1, Olsen 1-2, Orlhel 1-2, Siegrist 1-6, Garzon 1-6, Mullin 0-2). FG pct.: 32.0. FT pct.: 50.0. Team rebounds: 2. Turnovers: 18 (Siegrist 4, Garzon 4, Mullin 3, Herlihy 2, Olsen 2, Runyan, Orlhel, Team). Blocks: 3 (Siegrist, Herlihy, Orlhel). Steals: 5 (Siegrist 2, Mullin 2, Runyan)								Three-point goals: 2-12, 25.0 (Williams 1-2, Westbrook 1-1, Juhazs 0-1, Buckers 0-1). FG pct.: 69.2. Team rebounds: 7. Turnovers: 5, Nelson-Obodo 2, Williams 1, Westbrook, Ducharme, Juhazs. Blocks: 2 (Nelson-Obodo, Williams)						

UConn	M	FG	FT	RB	A	PF	PT
Edwards	31	5-9	2-4	6	2	4	12
Nelson-Ododa	23	4-4	3-3	5	4	2	11
Fudd	36	4-5	1-2	1	2	0	9
Williams	29	4-9	0-0	3	0	1	9
Muhl	19	0-1	1-2	2	1	1	1
Westbrook	20	6-11	0-0	4	3	0	13
Ducharme	16	4-6	0-0	5	0	0	9
Juhasz	17	1-3	2-2	5	2	1	4
Bueckers	9	1-4	0-0	1	1	0	2
TOTALS	-	29-52	9-13	39	15	9	70
Three-point goals: 3-12, 25.0 (Ducharme 1-1, Williams 1-2, Westbrook 1-5, Fudd 0-1, Muhl 0-1, Juhasz 0-1, Bueckers 0-1). FG pct.: 55.8. FT pct.: 69.2. Team rebounds: 7. Turnovers: 17 (Edwards 5, Nelson-Ododa 2, Williams 2, Muhl 2, Fudd, Westbrook, Ducharme, Juhasz, Bueckers, Team). Blocks: 2 (Nelson-Ododa, Williams). Steals: 10 (Fudd 3, Muhl 3, Edwards 2, Nelson-Ododa, Williams).							

Villanova	10	8	8	14	-	40
UConn	17	16	16	21	-	70

Officials: Spurlock-Welsh, Forsberg, Vaszily. Att.: 6,459 Mohegan Sun Arena, Uncasville.

the ball over twice. But the Huskies settled down, and their defense was stellar. After a Villanova timeout at the 6:05 mark, the Wildcats finally scored their first points on a 3-pointer by Brianna Herlihy and UConn led 9-3.

The Huskies extended the lead to 17-10 after a quarter,

shooting 53 percent from the field, while Villanova made only four field goals.

Ducharme made the first three shots for the Huskies in the second quarter, and Villanova was still struggling to score. Herlihy finally scored on a fast-break layup with 5:35 left in the half,

which cut UConn's lead to 21-12.

The Huskies led by as many as 17 in the second quarter, but Villanova closed out the half with three baskets from Siegrist. UConn led 33-18 at halftime.

Villanova shot 2 for 11 from the 3-point line in the half. The Huskies, meanwhile, were shooting 56 percent overall (14 for 25).

Siegrist hit the first basket of the second half, but she was quiet after that with Williams guarding her.

UConn had 10 turnovers in the first half but limited its turnovers to one in the third quarter and played lockdown defense on the Wildcats, limiting them to eight points in the quarter. The Huskies led 49-26 after three quarters.

Lori Riley can be reached at lriley@courant.com.

Ukraine

from Page 1

there that could affect my family, friends or team back home."

Russia's invasion has taken a massive toll across Ukraine as bombs pound cities in the Eastern European country. More than 1 million people have fled the country as Russian forces advance. Millions more are stuck in the crossfire, many hiding underground.

Watching it unfold from long distance is excruciating, a helplessness overtaking Ukrainian players as they watch the news, follow social media, try to communicate with family and friends back home.

"It is difficult mentally," said Denys Bobchuk, a sophomore at Spring Hill College in Mobile, Alabama. "Personally, I feel guilt just because my people are going through some rough things right now. And I'm here, I'm safe and there's not much I can help with."

The tension started when it appeared Russia was going to invade Ukraine. It intensified tenfold when the bombs began to fall and the troops crossed the borders.

Communication with Ukraine has been spotty at times. Hours without contact with family members is agonizing, days even worse.

The endless anxiety also comes with an attempt to understand why their home country is being invaded.

"It's not OK. We live in this time where we have medicine, science, all this stuff, and we're still having war," San Francisco center Volodymyr Markovetsky said. "Why is that happening? I don't understand. My family doesn't understand — nobody does."

Markovetsky's mother and sister were able to escape to Lithuania, but his father, a police officer, had to stay in Ukraine.

Zdor's parents, sister and numerous other relatives are in Ukraine and Crimea, which was occupied by Russia in 2014.

George Maslennikov, a senior forward at Canisius, is from Odessa and had some nervous moments when neither he nor his father, who's in Spain, were able to reach his mother Tetyanna while the city is under siege.

"I'm trying to keep my mindset positive as much as I can, though it's difficult even without things like that going on back home since I only see my family once a year," he said.

The Ukrainian players here still try to do what they can from afar, raising awareness on social media and funds for the military effort.

Bobchuk is trying to create a fund to raise money for soldiers in Ukraine and has contacted American manufacturers to send bulletproof vests to military friends back home.

Maslennikov has donated on a bank app to send money to the Ukrainian military, encouraging others to do the same through social media.

"It just takes a lot of courage to do things like that and having this country as small as ours to fight against Russians," he said. "People thought it was going to be easy, but it's just not. I'm trying to support it as much as I can even though I'm so far from home and I'm worried about them, but I'm doing as much as I can."

But there's only so much the Ukrainian players can do from so far away. Much of their time is spent watching, waiting, keeping tabs on everyone back home.

Sticking to a routine is a key, takes the mind off what's happening — at least for a little while.

"It just feels not right to me, but at the end of the day, I think it is important to understand that I'm here and the only thing I can do is to do my job, which is playing basketball right now at the highest level," Bobchuk said. "And that's what I'm trying to do right now, just trying to focus on something that I'm involved in and just have my daily routine and following it."

Did you know?

Children under the age of 6 shouldn't be left alone in the bathtub. Approximately 85 young children drown inside the home each year, and 80% of those cases happen in the bathrooms.

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NATIONAL SPORTS REPORT

SHORTS

Cavs' playoff push takes another hit



The Cavaliers' playoff push just got a lot more steep. All-Star center Jarrett Allen will be sidelined indefinitely after fracturing his left middle finger in Sunday's win over the Raptors, the latest setback for a Cavaliers team that has been dealing with injury issues all season. Allen, left, who has become one of the NBA's most well-rounded big men, got hurt in the first quarter, when he also sustained a bruised quadriceps while driving to the basket. The 7-footer may have hurt his finger when he bashed his left hand into the rim while blocking a shot. The Cavaliers were able to hold on without Allen and beat the Raptors 104-96 to tighten their grip on the No. 6 spot in the Eastern Conference. The team didn't provide a timetable on Monday for Allen's return. It's safe to assume he'll be out at least a few games, depending on the severity of the fracture to his non-shooting hand. The 23-year-old Allen is averaging 16.1 points, 10.8 rebounds and 1.3 blocks in 56 games for the Cavaliers, who are back in playoff contention after winning just 22 games last season.

WR Ridley bet on games, gets ban



For endangering the integrity of the sport by betting on games, Falcons wide receiver Calvin Ridley has been suspended by the NFL for at least the next season. Ridley won't play in 2022 and there's no guarantee for the NFL future of the player who had been expected to be the Falcons' top target for quarterback Matt Ryan. NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell on Monday suspended Ridley after a league investigation determined Ridley bet on NFL games in 2021 while away from the team addressing mental health concerns. The NFL says the betting took place during a five-day period in late November 2021. A league investigation uncovered no evidence inside information was used or that any game was compromised by Ridley's betting, Goodell's announcement said. Nor was there evidence suggesting Falcons coaches, players or staff were aware of Ridley's betting activity. This isn't the first gambling suspension meted out by Goodell. He suspended Cardinals cornerback Josh Shaw in November 2019 for gambling on an NFL game. Shaw hasn't played in the league since.

Griner's wife thanks fans for support



Brittney Griner's wife, Cherelle, has thanked everyone for their support of the WNBA star, who was arrested last month in Russia. Brittney Griner was detained at a Moscow airport after Russian authorities said a search of her luggage revealed vape cartridges. They were identified as containing oil derived from cannabis, which could carry a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison. The 31-year-old Griner, left, one of the most recognizable players in women's basketball who also plays in Russia, has won two Olympic gold medals with the U.S., a WNBA championship with the Phoenix Mercury and a national championship at Baylor. She's a seven-time All-Star. "Thank you to everyone who has reached out to me regarding my wife's safe return from Russia. Your prayers and support are greatly appreciated," Cherelle Griner wrote on Instagram. "... Please honor our privacy as we continue to work on getting my wife home safely." Secretary of State Antony Blinken said Sunday the U.S. will provide assistance to any American citizen being held on foreign soil. —Associated Press



Ross Chastain found himself in an unusual position in Sunday's NASCAR Cup race: In the lead for 83 laps. He finished third. Many drivers believe the Next Gen car is delivering on its promise to give underdogs more of a chance. DYLAN BUELL/GETTY

NASCAR

No letdown with new car

Early on, Next Gen seems to be leveling playing field

By Jenna Fryer
Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — NASCAR's underdogs will have a fighting chance in the Next Gen car, according to the development plan for the ballyhooed new model, and the racing would be much better. New car configurations would force drivers to muscle the cars like never before.

Well, four races into the new season on four entirely different circuits, NASCAR seems to have actually delivered on the promise.

Sure, the top teams have still won all the races. First it was Team Penske with back-to-back wins in the Busch Clash, an exhibition, and Daytona 500, and then Hendrick Motorsports made consecutive trips to victory lane in California and Las Vegas.

"You're never going to shut down the giant race teams, right?" Hendrick driver Alex Bowman said after his Sunday victory at Las Vegas.

Perhaps not. But the little guys sure are much improved:

■ Ross Chastain led a total of 75 laps through the first 117 races of his career. At Las Vegas, Chastain led a race-high 83 laps and finished third. TrackHouse Racing teammate Daniel Suarez flirted with his first career Cup Series win a week earlier at California.

■ Erik Jones showed that Richard Petty's old No. 43 can still be competitive by qualifying second at California, leading laps and finishing third. The

rebranded Petty GMS Racing team has expanded to two cars this season and Ty Dillon has been mid-pack.

■ Richard Childress Racing, the first team to embrace the Next Gen concept and help NASCAR create the first prototypes, has shown dramatic improvement. Tyler Reddick has contended everywhere and Austin Dillon has a pair of runner-up finishes.

■ Jack Roush's rebranded RFK Racing team with Brad Keselowski part of the ownership group went back to victory lane for the first time since 2017 when Keselowski and Chris Buescher each won a Daytona 500 qualifying race.

■ Aric Almirola is the only driver to notch three top-10 finishes through the first three points races, while 25 different drivers have led at least one lap this season. Christopher Bell won his first career pole at Las Vegas, and annual title contenders Kevin Harvick and Denny Hamlin have plummeted in the standings; Hamlin heads to Phoenix this weekend ranked 30th in points.

The Next Gen has so far raced on the smallest circuit possible — the quarter-mile track inside Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum for the Clash — and one of the the largest, the 2.5-mile superspeedway at Daytona International Speedway. The race at 2-mile Auto Club Speedway was the best at the California track in years, and same can be said for Sunday's race at 1.5-mile Las Vegas circuit.

Las Vegas featured 23 lead changes among 15 drivers and an overtime finish in which Bowman raced teammate and reigning Cup champion Kyle Larson door-to-door for the win.

Hall of Fame driver Jeff Gordon, now the vice chairman at Hendrick

Motorsports, called the opening month of racing "refreshing" as NASCAR produced a car that has so far lived up to its hype.

"We've seen great racing ... cars coming from the back to the front, front to the back," Gordon said. "... But the cars are on the edge. The drivers are definitely having to show their talent and ability."

An aerodynamic package that features lower downforce and higher horsepower has been a handful for drivers throughout the field, with Larson complaining after his runner-up finish in Las Vegas that his upper arms were the sorest they'd been in his entire driving career.

"I'm out there holding a death grip on the steering wheel for four hours, just trying to hang on," Larson said. "The car is actually really fun to drive."

The Next Gen still has plenty of kinks, starting with a parts shortage.

The car has had difficulty getting back to pit road with a flat tire. Toyota worked out an overheating problem between California and Las Vegas, and teams, manufacturers and even the drivers are learning things each week.

Joey Logano, winner of the Clash, suggested NASCAR employ AAA-style service trucks that can rush out to a disabled racecar and do a quick tire change to speed up the process.

"There's going to be learning curves," Logano said. "There's going to be issues we're going to have to work through as an industry, because some of it just you don't know what you don't know until you get out there. There's probably going to be more things that come up as we keep racing at different racetracks."

COLLEGE ATHLETICS

'Set me up for life'

Female athletes stash NIL cash through social media deals

By Erica Hunzinger
Associated Press

A figure sprints toward the camera along a walkway at an apartment complex, first in real time, then in slow motion before going back to real time. The woman is dressed in a tracksuit, she's fast and the song playing over the video says "it's me against me."

More than 20,000 people have viewed this East-bay-sponsored TikTok post on Kentucky sprinter and hurdler Masai Russell's account, and 2,000-plus engaged with it. It's just one of several name, image and likeness deals sending a good chunk of change in Russell's direction since July.

She said she "loves the camera" and loves being able to "reap the benefits of what I love to do on a daily basis outside of track."

Russell and a growing number of female college athletes are making a name for themselves on social media and cashing in under the NCAA's interim policy covering athlete compensation by serving up a range of looks: serious business on the court, laid-back casual at home, approachably confident coed. Whether their self-run social media profiles are more wholesome or risqué, they're embracing the power of their image, hoping it brings attention not just to their sport and themselves but also financial independence after college.

"We can't play forever, and we have to have something to fall back on. The ball stops bouncing at some point," North Carolina sophomore basketball player Deja Kelly told Associated Press. She said she has six NIL deals, including Dunkin', Outback Steakhouse and a couple yet to be announced, and some of the deals have equity partnership.

"It's a generational opportunity. It'll set me up for life," Kelly said. "If I were to stop playing basketball in five years, I would be fine because all the things I'm setting up now and I'm focusing on now."

West Coast Conference Commissioner Gloria Nevarez said she believes that NIL deals soon will matter less about an athlete's alma mater as they build a brand that will last beyond the final year of eligibility.

"And I hope it's not just the attractiveness category," Nevarez said, "but because I'm very skilled in the sport or because I happen to have a (clothing) line or code programming at a really high level that you're going to start to get more of that engagement."

It's hard to ignore the attractiveness factor for some female athletes landing big deals.

The Barstool Athletics Instagram page, which features its NIL athletes and has more than 200,000 followers, featured posts with 46 women and 11 men over the span of a recent month. Beautiful Ballers, a brand that aims to "inspire women to believe that being an athlete doesn't diminish your beauty," features female athletes for its 468,000 followers on Instagram, where it posts pictures and videos of anything from athletes playing their sport to wearing barely-there bikinis.

Image-based NIL deals lead the way for college athletes, according to Athliance, meaning social media and photos, video or film. About 36% of reported deals to NIL platform Opendorse from July 1 to Dec. 31 were either for posting content on social media or creating visual content.

LSU gymnast Livvy Dunne is one of the most recognizable college athletes on social media. She has 1.5 million followers on Instagram and 4.8 million followers on TikTok. She told the AP in a written response to questions that she has about 10 deals, most of them recurring, and said she's "a top-earning athlete in the NIL space."

"When the rules changed, there was a lot of hype about how big of an opportunity this could be for me, and nothing has fallen short of those expectations," she said.

In recent TikTok and Instagram ads, the 19-year-old wears a short white tank top and pops her hip to show off how well American Eagle jeans fit. She does some modeling as part of her NIL deals, though mostly she posts on social media.

"I try to use my social media to show different sides of my personality. It is important to show that I am more than just my sport," Dunne said. "I like to think my vibe is happy and confident. I really am a normal college student, so I am comfortable showing myself studying with no makeup, all dressed up and going out, or flipping around in the gym."




For people like Russell and Dunne, social media's long been integrated into the fabric of building their brand. That hadn't been the case for Bailey Moody, who plays wheelchair basketball for the University of Alabama and was a member of the bronze-medal-winning U.S. paralympic team.

"It's a lot of work," Moody said. "I give all the people that are influencers — like big-time influencers on social media — credit because it's a lot of time. You've got to make your post look good and get followers, and the way you get followers is posting videos and all of these things."

Moody's main NIL deal — with Degree deodorant's Breaking Limits campaign — came through Team USA. She makes videos and posts graphics, captions and hashtags, mostly on Instagram. She's thrilled that Degree is highlighting adapted athletics, which "deserves to have these deals," but said becoming a brand is a balancing act.

WEATHER

TUESDAY






SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Mostly sunny, breezy and cooler. Northwest wind at 10 to 15 mph.

HIGH 44°
LOW 25°

WEDNESDAY






SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Mostly cloudy, rain developing in the afternoon. The rain could turn to snow at night.

HIGH 42°
LOW 30°

THURSDAY






SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Partly sunny and milder.

HIGH 52°
LOW 32°

FRIDAY






SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Partly sunny and mild.

HIGH 52°
LOW 40°


SATURDAY







SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Periods of rain, ending in the afternoon, very breezy.

HIGH 51°
LOW 24°

CONNECTICUTWEATHER

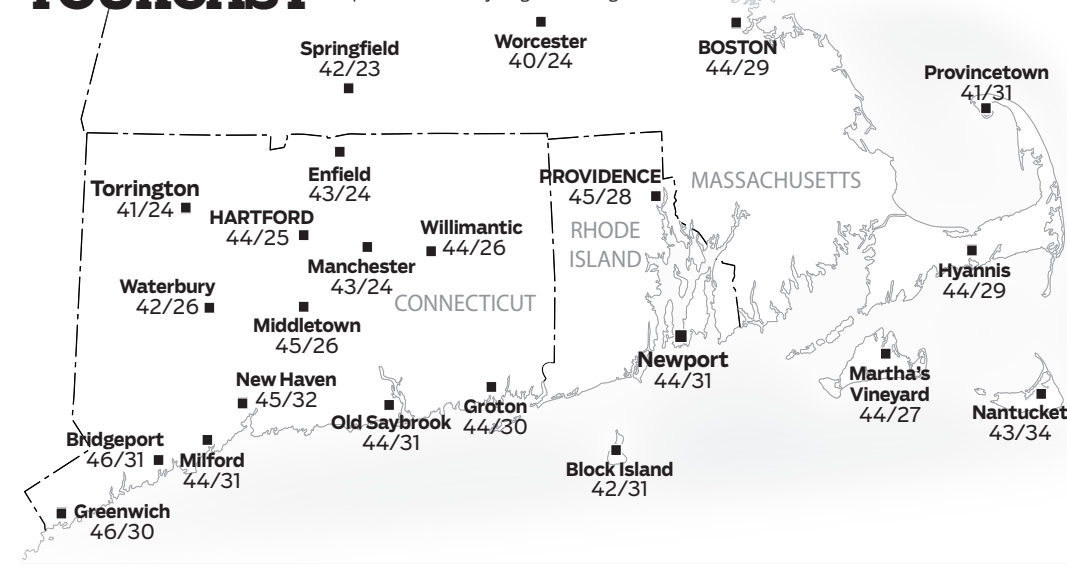
For the latest weather news throughout your day.



courant.com/weather

YOURCAST

Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.



OUTLOOK

High pressure over the central Appalachians will bring mostly sunny skies on Tuesday with high temperatures in the low to mid-40s. It will be a rather breezy day with northwest winds at 10 to 15 mph and peak gusts up to 35 mph. Cloudiness will be increasing overnight. Wednesday will be mostly cloudy with highs in the lower 40s. Rain will likely develop during the afternoon, then there could be a changeover to snow at night as temperatures drop through the 30s. Any accumulation of snow should be minor and will melt on Thursday with highs near 50 degrees.

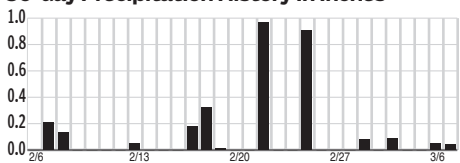
-Gary Lessor

ALMANAC

Precipitation In Inches	Total	Normal
Yesterday (by 7 p.m.)	0.04	0.12
Month to date	0.26	0.86
Total this year	6.57	7.27
Snowfall In Inches	Total	Normal
Yesterday (by 4 p.m.)	0.0	0.4
Total this year	26.3	44.2

Precipitation, temperature at Windsor Locks

30-day Precipitation History In Inches

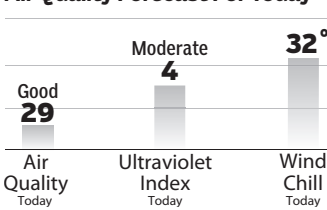


Tides	High	Low	Temp.
N.L. State Pier	1:12 a.m.	8:00 a.m.	42°
	1:38 p.m.	7:57 p.m.	
Saybrook Jetty	2:23 a.m.	8:53 a.m.	42°
	2:49 p.m.	8:50 p.m.	
Connecticut River at Portland	5:06 a.m.	a.m.	
Madison	5:32 p.m.	12:39 p.m.	
	2:33 a.m.	8:54 a.m.	40°
	3:06 p.m.	9:03 p.m.	
New Haven	2:53 a.m.	9:18 a.m.	38°
	3:26 p.m.	9:27 p.m.	
Stamford	2:57 a.m.	9:32 a.m.	40°
	3:30 p.m.	9:41 p.m.	

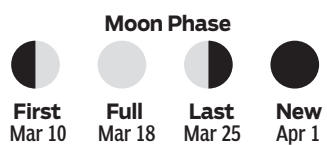
River Stage at Hartford: 5.73 feet at 6:30 p.m.

Boating Weather	L.I. Sound W	L.I. Sound E	B.I. Sound
WSunny	MSunny	MSunny	MSunny
Wind	NW, 10-20	NW, 15-20	NW, 10-25
Seas	2-4 ft.	3-5 ft.	4-7 ft.

Air Quality Forecast For Today



	Today	Tomorrow
Sunrise	6:15 a.m.	6:13 a.m.
Sunset	5:48 p.m.	5:49 p.m.
Moonrise	9:13 a.m.	9:45 a.m.
Moonset	a.m.	12:21 a.m.



AROUND THE WORLD

Today's forecast in cities not included in the maps above:

NEW ENGLAND Bangor 38 14 PC Burlington 36 20 PC Caribou 32 8 PC Concord 41 14 S Montpelier 31 13 PC Mt. Wash. 7 3 PC Portland 43 18 S Woods Hole 44 25 S NATION Albany 42 21 PC Albuquerque 49 26 PC Atlantic City 52 27 S	Baltimore 53 32 PC Bismarck 28 5 C Boise 45 28 C Buffalo 36 25 PC Charleston 73 59 C Cincinnati 47 32 PC Cleveland 38 27 PC Indianapolis 44 31 PC Jacksonville 81 63 C Las Vegas 63 45 S Miami Beach 80 75 PC Milwaukee 41 26 S	Nashville 53 39 PC New Orleans 69 55 T New York 49 33 S Okla. City 51 29 PC Omaha 51 21 S Orlando 84 67 SH Pittsburgh 44 27 PC Raleigh 63 45 PC Salt Lake City 41 31 C San Antonio 57 39 C San Diego 67 52 S	San Juan 84 73 SH Tucson 66 37 S WORLD Amsterdam 50 32 S Athens 57 39 SH Bangkok 93 79 T Barbados 84 72 PC Beijing 64 36 C Beirut 67 56 C Berlin 48 28 S Bermuda 73 66 PC Budapest 47 28 PC Buenos Aires 82 70 PC Cairo 77 57 PC Cancun 84 73 SH Dubai 90 72 PC Dublin 46 30 R Edinburgh 49 39 PC Helsinki 32 23 SF Hong Kong 73 61 S Istanbul 45 37 R Jerusalem 61 45 C Johannesburg 79 61 T Singapore 93 75 T	Kingston 86 73 SH Lisbon 61 48 SH London 52 46 S Madrid 57 36 SH Mexico City 79 67 C Milan 48 27 C Montreal 32 19 PC Moscow 27 5 SN Nassau 82 70 PC Paris 48 59 S Seoul 54 37 C Sydney 75 64 T Tel Aviv 67 54 PC Tokyo 46 39 C Toronto 39 23 PC Vancouver 46 30 SH Warsaw 39 30 S	Stockholm 43 26 PC Sydney 75 64 T Tel Aviv 67 54 PC Tokyo 46 39 C Toronto 39 23 PC Vancouver 46 30 SH Warsaw 39 30 S
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MONDAY'S HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULE

BOYS BASKETBALL

CIAC State Tournaments Division II—First Round Upper Bracket WATERFORD 65, ENFIELD 31 ENFIELD (8-13): Kaden Birkett 1-0-2, Josiah Whaley 3-0-7, Jaiden Davis 1-0-2, Nick Valente 1-1-3, Isaiah Plummer 3-0-7, Josiah Upson 1-0-3, Tighe Thebodeau 1-3-5, Jason Mahon 1-0-2. Totals 12-4-31. WATERFORD (16-5): Logan Peabody 6-2-16, Pat Barrs 1-1-3, Nolan Gollinsneider 1-0-3, Jordan Elci 4-0-8, Evan McCue 1-2-5, Evan Piotroski 1-0-2, Anthony Jessuck 0-2-2, Sean O'Connell 4-8-18, Juan Morez 3-2-8. Totals 21-17-65. E 10 6 6 9 — 31 W 9 22 17 17 — 65 NEWTOWN 50, AVON 38 ST. JOSEPH 77, NEWINGTON 61 AMISTAD 65, AMITY 62 Lower Bracket MIDDLETOWN 58, LAW 47 GREENWICH 43, SIMSBURY 34 WESTHILL 79, XAVIER 47 STAMFORD 65, STRATFORD 62 Division IV—First Round Upper Bracket VALLEY REGIONAL 56, NONNEWAUG 43 NONNEWAUG (10-12): Ben Conti 2-3-8, Dylan Chung 1-0-2, Ben Roden 6-0-14, Ben Stewart 2-2-7, Aiden Colby 4-0-8, Charles Rickenbach 2-0-4. Totals 17-5-43. VALLEY REGIONAL (11-11): DiAngelo Jean-Pierre 1-1-3, Simon Partyka 2-3-8, Andrew Yermenson 2-1-6, Sam Hutchinson 11-1-23, James Marsden 5-0-14, Brayden Shea 1-0-2. Totals 22-6-56. N 6 11 17 9 — 43 VR 22 8 13 13 — 56 Note: Marsden had 8rebounds, 3blocks, 2assists, 2 steals, Partyka had 9assists, 7rebounds, 3steals and Yermenson had 7rebounds, 3blocks. CHENEY TECH 61, OLD LYME 50 ELLINGTON 86, MONTVILLE 30(TOT)

Lower Bracket ROCKVILLE 66, PLATT TECH 46 MORGAN 67, WOODLAND 50 KILLINGLY 56, GRIFFIN 41 BETHEL 51, BULLARD-HAVENS 41 GIRLS BASKETBALL CIAC State Tournaments Class LL—Quarterfinals Upper Bracket ENFIELD 45, SOUTHTON 36 SOUTHTON (17-4): Allison Mikosz 3-2-10, Gabby Dangelo 2-0-5, Bethany Borges 0-3-3, Hannah Blanchard 3-1-9. Totals 11-7-36. ENFIELD (14-1): Alyssa Hosig 1-0-3, Taylin Byers 2-0-4, Alyssa Rossignol 6-1-14, Sydney Marshall 2-1-4, Anyah Rosado 3-4-11, Megan Marcotte 4-1-9. Totals 18-6-45. S 10 14 8 4 — 36 E 13 11 10 11 — 45 WILTON 44, HILLHOUSE 34 Lower Bracket EAST HARTFORD 61, NEW LONDON 47 MIDDLETOWN 61, DANBURY 46 Class MM—Quarterfinals Upper Bracket ST. PAUL 61, NORTHWESTERN 38 NORTHWESTERN (14-8): Bria Block 1-0-2, Ally Danila 1-0-2, Eliza Austin 1-0-2, McKenna Galiber 2-0-4, Maddie Tora 3-13-19, Morgan Pitt 3-0-7. Totals 10-13-37. ST. PAUL (18-5): Halleigh Orzel 1-0-3, Sam Naples 2-0-4, Audrey Tice 1-2-4, Izzy Leggett 4-0-9, Abbey Stanford 1-0-2, Nadia Reimer 7-0-20, Zoey Rubins 4-1-11, Emily Ronalter 2-0-4, Sarah Lindquist 1-0-2, Kelsea Tefoe 1-0-2. Totals 24-3-61. N 6 13 8 — 37 SP 17 18 8 18 — 61 SHA 34, BERLIN 29 Lower Bracket HAND 59, KILLINGLY 33 ST. JOSEPH 67, LEDYARD 58 BOYS HOCKEY CIAC State Tournaments Division II—First Round Upper Bracket SHEEHAN 4, EAST CATHOLIC 2

FARMINGTON VALLEY 4, EAST HAVEN CO-OP 1 NORTH HAVEN 6, EASTERN CT 1 WESTHILL/STAMFORD VS. HAND, LATE Lower Bracket LYMAN HALL 10, GUILFORD 4 WATERTOWN/POMPERAUG 3, SOUTH WINDSOR 2 NORTH BRANFORD VS. WETHERSFIELD, LATE WOODSTOCK ACADEMY VS. TRUMBULL, LATE Division III—First Round Upper Bracket BBD 5, NEWTOWN/NEW FAIRFIELD 2 CONARD VS. TRI-TOWN, LATE HOUSATONIC CO-OP VS. E.O. SMITH/TOLLAND, LATE HALL VS. NEW MILFORD, LATE Lower Bracket NEWINGTON 5, ROCKY HILL CO-OP 2 ENFIELD CO-OP 6, MASUK 5 (OT) STAPLES 4, SGWL 3 SHEPAUG VS. JBWA, LATE
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TUESDAY'S HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULE

ALL GAMES AT 6:30 P.M. UNLESS NOTED BOYS BASKETBALL CIAC State Tournaments Division I—First Round Upper Bracket VALLEY REGIONAL 56, NONNEWAUG 43 NONNEWAUG (10-12): Ben Conti 2-3-8, Dylan Chung 1-0-2, Ben Roden 6-0-14, Ben Stewart 2-2-7, Aiden Colby 4-0-8, Charles Rickenbach 2-0-4. Totals 17-5-43. VALLEY REGIONAL (11-11): DiAngelo Jean-Pierre 1-1-3, Simon Partyka 2-3-8, Andrew Yermenson 2-1-6, Sam Hutchinson 11-1-23, James Marsden 5-0-14, Brayden Shea 1-0-2. Totals 22-6-56. N 6 11 17 9 — 43 VR 22 8 13 13 — 56 Note: Marsden had 8rebounds, 3blocks, 2assists, 2 steals, Partyka had 9assists, 7rebounds, 3steals and Yermenson had 7rebounds, 3blocks. CHENEY TECH 61, OLD LYME 50 ELLINGTON 86, MONTVILLE 30(TOT)
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Lower Bracket ROCKVILLE 66, PLATT TECH 46 MORGAN 67, WOODLAND 50 KILLINGLY 56, GRIFFIN 41 BETHEL 51, BULLARD-HAVENS 41 GIRLS BASKETBALL CIAC State Tournaments Class LL—Quarterfinals Upper Bracket ENFIELD 45, SOUTHTON 36 SOUTHTON (17-4): Allison Mikosz 3-2-10, Gabby Dangelo 2-0-5, Bethany Borges 0-3-3, Hannah Blanchard 3-1-9. Totals 11-7-36. ENFIELD (14-1): Alyssa Hosig 1-0-3, Taylin Byers 2-0-4, Alyssa Rossignol 6-1-14, Sydney Marshall 2-1-4, Anyah Rosado 3-4-11, Megan Marcotte 4-1-9. Totals 18-6-45. S 10 14 8 4 — 36 E 13 11 10 11 — 45 WILTON 44, HILLHOUSE 34 Lower Bracket EAST HARTFORD 61, NEW LONDON 47 MIDDLETOWN 61, DANBURY 46 Class MM—Quarterfinals Upper Bracket ST. PAUL 61, NORTHWESTERN 38 NORTHWESTERN (14-8): Bria Block 1-0-2, Ally Danila 1-0-2, Eliza Austin 1-0-2, McKenna Galiber 2-0-4, Maddie Tora 3-13-19, Morgan Pitt 3-0-7. Totals 10-13-37. ST. PAUL (18-5): Halleigh Orzel 1-0-3, Sam Naples 2-0-4, Audrey Tice 1-2-4, Izzy Leggett 4-0-9, Abbey Stanford 1-0-2, Nadia Reimer 7-0-20, Zoey Rubins 4-1-11, Emily Ronalter 2-0-4, Sarah Lindquist 1-0-2, Kelsea Tefoe 1-0-2. Totals 24-3-61. N 6 13 8 — 37 SP 17 18 8 18 — 61 SHA 34, BERLIN 29 Lower Bracket HAND 59, KILLINGLY 33 ST. JOSEPH 67, LEDYARD 58 BOYS HOCKEY CIAC State Tournaments Division I—First Round Upper Bracket VALLEY REGIONAL 56, NONNEWAUG 43 NONNEWAUG (10-12): Ben Conti 2-3-8, Dylan Chung 1-0-2, Ben Roden 6-0-14, Ben Stewart 2-2-7, Aiden Colby 4-0-8, Charles Rickenbach 2-0-4. Totals 17-5-43. VALLEY REGIONAL (11-11): DiAngelo Jean-Pierre 1-1-3, Simon Partyka 2-3-8, Andrew Yermenson 2-1-6, Sam Hutchinson 11-1-23, James Marsden 5-0-14, Brayden Shea 1-0-2. Totals 22-6-56. N 6 11 17 9 — 43 VR 22 8 13 13 — 56 Note: Marsden had 8rebounds, 3blocks, 2assists, 2 steals, Partyka had 9assists, 7rebounds, 3steals and Yermenson had 7rebounds, 3blocks. CHENEY TECH 61, OLD LYME 50 ELLINGTON 86, MONTVILLE 30(TOT)

Lower Bracket ROCKVILLE 66, PLATT TECH 46 MORGAN 67, WOODLAND 50 KILLINGLY 56, GRIFFIN 41 BETHEL 51, BULLARD-HAVENS 41 GIRLS BASKETBALL CIAC State Tournaments Class LL—Quarterfinals Upper Bracket ENFIELD 45, SOUTHTON 36 SOUTHTON (17-4): Allison Mikosz 3-2-10, Gabby Dangelo 2-0-5, Bethany Borges 0-3-3, Hannah Blanchard 3-1-9. Totals 11-7-36. ENFIELD (14-1): Alyssa Hosig 1-0-3, Taylin Byers 2-0-4, Alyssa Rossignol 6-1-14, Sydney Marshall 2-1-4, Anyah Rosado 3-4-11, Megan Marcotte 4-1-9. Totals 18-6-45. S 10 14 8 4 — 36 E 13 11 10 11 — 45 WILTON 44, HILLHOUSE 34 Lower Bracket EAST HARTFORD 61, NEW LONDON 47 MIDDLETOWN 61, DANBURY 46 Class MM—Quarterfinals Upper Bracket ST. PAUL 61, NORTHWESTERN 38 NORTHWESTERN (14-8): Bria Block 1-0-2, Ally Danila 1-0-2, Eliza Austin 1-0-2, McKenna Galiber 2-0-4, Maddie Tora 3-13-19, Morgan Pitt 3-0-7. Totals 10-13-37. ST. PAUL (18-5): Halleigh Orzel 1-0-3, Sam Naples 2-0-4, Audrey Tice 1-2-4, Izzy Leggett 4-0-9, Abbey Stanford 1-0-2, Nadia Reimer 7-0-20, Zoey Rubins 4-1-11, Emily Ronalter 2-0-4, Sarah Lindquist 1-0-2, Kelsea Tefoe 1-0-2. Totals 24-3-61. N 6 13 8 — 37 SP 17 18 8 18 — 61 SHA 34, BERLIN 29 Lower Bracket HAND 59, KILLINGLY 33 ST. JOSEPH 67, LEDYARD 58 BOYS HOCKEY CIAC State Tournaments Division I—First Round Upper Bracket VALLEY REGIONAL 56, NONNEWAUG 43 NONNEWAUG (10-12): Ben Conti 2-3-8, Dylan Chung 1-0-2, Ben Roden 6-0-14, Ben Stewart 2-2-7, Aiden Colby 4-0-8, Charles Rickenbach 2-0-4. Totals 17-5-43. VALLEY REGIONAL (11-11): DiAngelo Jean-Pierre 1-1-3, Simon Partyka 2-3-8, Andrew Yermenson 2-1-6, Sam Hutchinson 11-1-23, James Marsden 5-0-14, Brayden Shea 1-0-2. Totals 22-6-56. N 6 11 17 9 — 43 VR 22 8 13 13 — 56 Note: Marsden had 8rebounds, 3blocks, 2assists, 2 steals, Partyka had 9assists, 7rebounds, 3steals and Yermenson had 7rebounds, 3blocks. CHENEY TECH 61, OLD LYME 50 ELLINGTON 86, MONTVILLE 30(TOT)

Lower Bracket ROCKVILLE 66, PLATT TECH 46 MORGAN 67, WOODLAND 50 KILLINGLY 56, GRIFFIN 41 BETHEL 51, BULLARD-HAVENS 41 GIRLS BASKETBALL CIAC State Tournaments Class LL—Quarterfinals Upper Bracket ENFIELD 45, SOUTHTON 36 SOUTHTON (17-4): Allison Mikosz 3-2-10, Gabby Dangelo 2-0-5, Bethany Borges 0-3-3, Hannah Blanchard 3-1-9. Totals 11-7-36. ENFIELD (14-1): Alyssa Hosig 1-0-3, Taylin Byers 2-0-4, Alyssa Rossignol 6-1-14, Sydney Marshall 2-1-4, Anyah Rosado 3-4-11, Megan Marcotte 4-1-9. Totals 18-6-45. S 10 14 8 4 — 36 E 13 11 10 11 — 45 WILTON 44, HILLHOUSE 34 Lower Bracket EAST HARTFORD 61, NEW LONDON 47 MIDDLETOWN 61, DANBURY 46 Class MM—Quarterfinals Upper Bracket ST. PAUL 61, NORTHWESTERN 38 NORTHWESTERN (14-8): Bria Block 1-0-2, Ally Danila 1-0-2, Eliza Austin 1-0-2, McKenna Galiber 2-0-4, Maddie Tora 3-13-19, Morgan Pitt 3-0-7. Totals 10-13-37. ST. PAUL (18-5): Halleigh Orzel 1-0-3, Sam Naples 2-0-4, Audrey Tice 1-2-4, Izzy Leggett 4-0-9, Abbey Stanford 1-0-2, Nadia Reimer 7-0-20, Zoey Rubins 4-1-11, Emily Ronalter 2-0-4, Sarah Lindquist 1-0-2, Kelsea Tefoe 1-0-2. Totals 24-3-61. N 6 13 8 — 37 SP 17 18 8 18 — 61 SHA 34, BERLIN 29 Lower Bracket HAND 59, KILLINGLY 33 ST. JOSEPH 67, LEDYARD 58 BOYS HOCKEY CIAC State Tournaments Division I—First Round Upper Bracket VALLEY REGIONAL 56, NONNEWAUG 43 NONNEWAUG (10-12): Ben Conti 2-3-8, Dylan Chung 1-0-2, Ben Roden 6-0-14, Ben Stewart 2-2-7, Aiden Colby 4-0-8, Charles Rickenbach 2-0-4. Totals 17-5-43. VALLEY REGIONAL (11-11): DiAngelo Jean-Pierre 1-1-3, Simon Partyka 2-3-8, Andrew Yermenson 2-1-6, Sam Hutchinson 11-1-23, James Marsden 5-0-14, Brayden Shea 1-0-2. Totals 22-6-56. N 6 11 17 9 — 43 VR 22 8 13 13 — 56 Note: Marsden had 8rebounds, 3blocks, 2assists, 2 steals, Partyka had 9assists, 7rebounds, 3steals and Yermenson had 7rebounds, 3blocks. CHENEY TECH 61, OLD LYME 50 ELLINGTON 86, MONTVILLE 30(TOT)

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WEDNESDAY'S HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULE

BOYS BASKETBALL

CIAC State Tournaments Division II—Second Round Upper Bracket Bristol Central (24-0): No. 9Staples (16-5) at No. 8Waterford (16-5); No. 13Newtown (15-6) at No. 4Wilton (17-3); No. 12St. Joseph (15-6) at No. 5Holy Cross (16-4) Lower Bracket No. 18Greenwich (13-8) at No. 2Northwest Catholic (22-2); No. 23Stamford (11-10) at No. 7Crosby (15-5); No. 14Westhill (15-6) at No. 3Conard (20-3); No. 11Middletown (16-7) at No. 6Prince Tech (15-5) Division IV—Second Round Upper Bracket No. 16Valley Regional (11-10) at No. 1Cromwell (19-1); No. 9
